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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 9, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DONNA F. EDWARDS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

WELCOMING NINTH ANNUAL NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, occasionally there is some controversy and conflict here in our Nation's Capitol, but this week we have an opportunity for celebrating events that bring people together. We have the ninth annual National Bicycle Summit, which will be welcoming people from 47 States and four foreign countries who will be fanning out across the Capitol to talk about the opportunities

for this country in promoting bicycle activities.

This has been an exciting period for people who believe in cycling. Under the leadership of now Chairman OBERSTAR, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in the last reauthorization celebrated the most significant biking, hiking, and walking bill in history. Now, as Mr. OBERSTAR is chairman, we anticipate that there will be even more initiatives that will be undertaken. In the economic recovery package, there were \$825 million of projects all across the country that are shovel-ready that actually put more people to work per million dollars than highway construction.

Bike partisanship is alive and well on Capitol Hill, with over 200 members in the Bike Caucus. There is a reason why people are focusing on cycling activities. Since 1980, the number of miles Americans drive has increased three times faster than the population, and almost twice as fast as vehicle registrations. We have reached a point where our roadways simply demand relief.

We have an obesity epidemic. Sixty-five percent of American adults are either overweight or obese. Thirteen percent of our children and adolescents are overweight, due in large part to lack of regular activity. There is an opportunity to burn calories instead of fossil fuel. The Centers for Disease Control estimates that if all these physically inactive Americans become active, we have the opportunity to save over \$75 billion a year in health care costs.

The transportation sector contributes one-third of our greenhouse gas emissions that are contributing to cooking the planet.

There are opportunities for individuals to make a difference in their lives. A bike commuter saves almost \$2,000 a year in auto-related costs, avoids 50 hours of being stuck in traffic and

saves almost 150 gallons of gasoline. And you don't have to be a regular long-distance bike commuter. Forty percent of American trips are two miles or less. Over a quarter are less than one mile.

We all have an opportunity to make a difference. We can start by working with our children. Only 15 percent of students were walking or bicycling to school as we began our new century, yet in an earlier generation more than half the children were able to get to school on their own.

We watch as bicycles have been integrated into day-to-day activities. Right here on Capitol Hill, you will watch bicycle patrols with Capitol police. In fact, more than 96 percent of the large cities in this country have routine bicycle patrols, and they are spreading across the country.

It is also big business. I am not just talking about a bicycle-friendly community like mine in Portland, Oregon, where it is about \$100 million dollars of economic activity and employs about 1,000 people. Nationally we are talking about \$133 billion, supporting over 1 million jobs, producing over \$17 billion in annual Federal and State tax revenue and producing over \$53 billion in annual retail sales and services. These are activities that help revitalize the economy exactly at the time we need them. Even those ever-present bicycle rides that are mushrooming around the country support in excess of \$100 million a year in critical medical research.

It is time for us to focus on what we in Congress can do to be more bike partisan. We urge you to join in welcoming the cyclists to Capitol Hill and become a member of the Congressional Bike Caucus.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H3079

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, ever attentive to our deepest needs, answer the prayers of the Members of Congress and bring them closer and closer to You.

Lord, once You draw souls close to You, people desire to hold on to Your presence, and so they pray. Then to give flesh and blood to prayerful sentiments and words, they enter into the realm of self-denial.

Finally, personal sacrifice, Lord, never seems worthwhile until it benefits another. So there are these three practices: prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. The three are really one, giving life to each other as they bring us closer to You, O Lord.

Let living faith and faith-filled practice lead us to You both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOSWELL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT OBAMA FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER TO OVERTURN BAN ON FEDERAL FUNDING FOR EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

(Mr. BOSWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend President Obama for overturning former President Bush's ban on Federal funding for embryonic stem cell research.

Lifting this 8-year-old restriction provides hope for doctors, scientists, and those in my district, our State, our country, who have waited far too long

for research that may provide them with cures for diseases such as diabetes, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, cancer, and others.

Just this weekend, I met with a young lady who I've grown to know very well, Karli Borcharding, who lives with juvenile diabetes and has done a great service to so many by sharing her story and educating countless Americans on this life-altering illness. Each time I meet with her, she reminds me of the hope that stem cell research holds for not just her, but children and young people like her who live with this disease.

Stem cell research has the potential to revolutionize the way patients are treated. We must utilize the best minds and the best science to find cures for people living with chronic diseases.

Our ability to utilize and encourage scientific and medical research has been put on hold too long. I am confident that President Obama will continue to work to enhance medical research and bring renewed hope to those who deserve access to the best medicine possible.

NUCLEAR ENERGY VITAL TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday The Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, editorialized the following: "President Obama's decision to abandon the national nuclear waste disposal site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, is a breathtakingly irresponsible dismissal of a vital project on which billions have already been spent. It extends a security risk at dozens of temporary waste disposal sites around the Nation and threatens to cripple the future nuclear development needed to advance national energy independence."

The editorial continues to say, "For South Carolina, it raises the likelihood that vast quantities of nuclear waste at the Savannah River site will simply remain there indefinitely. Congress should repudiate the administration's decision."

That is sound advice. Nuclear energy is clean energy. It has provided my home State over 50 percent of our electrical power for over 30 years and will continue to be an important part of our Nation's energy infrastructure.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

CONFIRMATION OF JOHN HOLDREN AND JANE LUBCHENCO

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as the people today are talking about restoring

science and government to its rightful place, President Obama's nominees for Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration await confirmation. John Holdren and Jane Lubchenco are among the Nation's finest scientists, and we urgently need them at the forefront of our Nation's efforts to rebuild our economy with new discoveries and innovations, to transform our energy use with new technologies, and to manage our natural resources with enhanced understanding.

Today, I stood in the White House as the President talked about the new science policy; and later I stood in our Capitol dome, gazing up at the fresco of George Washington surrounded by the tools of our founders. My eyes were drawn to two scenes in particular, one named Oceans—or Marine—and the other Science. Our Nation's future prosperity is no less dependent upon a mastery of these fields today. I look forward to confirmation of my good friends, Dr. Lubchenco and Dr. Holdren, soon.

THE HUNGRY BEAST OF GOVERNMENT

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if you tax something, you get less of it. In other words, when the almighty Federal Government swoops in and taxes someone or something, it stifles growth, production, and the incentive to work.

The number one producer of jobs in America is not the government, not large corporations, but small business. Most are owned by individuals, real people who hire other real people.

The new income tax hike is aimed right at these individuals, and the effect will be bad for jobs and the economy. It's the administration's way of punishing success. Small business owners have told me they aren't going to expand because they do not want to get in the higher tax bracket. Some have told me they're going to downsize to pay the new tax increase. That means, in simple terms, lay people off.

Why work hard and expand? The more you work, the higher percent of taxes taken from you by the hungry beast of government. No one should have their taxes raised during a recession, but the new economic recovery plan is: If it moves, regulate it; if it keeps moving, tax it; and if it stops moving, subsidize it.

And that's just the way it is.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 6, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 6, 2009, at 1:47 p.m.:

That the Senate passed H.J. Res. 38.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

NAPOLITANO IS WRONG TO INVESTIGATE THE INVESTIGATORS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, recently Homeland Security agents in Washington State arrested an illegal immigrant gang member, discovered he worked at a manufacturing plant, then began to investigate the employer and arrested 28 illegal immigrants. Instead of praising their good work, though, Secretary Napolitano said she would investigate the investigators. Amazing.

Secretary Napolitano took the wrong side. She should stand up for U.S. citizens and legal immigrant workers, not the illegal immigrants who take their jobs. She should stand up for the law enforcement officers who are doing their jobs, not the special interests who favor amnesty.

It does not bode well for citizens and legal immigrant workers alike that when it comes to worksite enforcement, this administration is investigating the investigators instead of the law breakers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled joint resolution on Friday, March 6, 2009:

H.J. Res. 38, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

□ 1415

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 210) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on classroom performance.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 210

Whereas breakfast program participants under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 include public, private, elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as rural, suburban, and urban schools;

Whereas at least 16,000 schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program do not participate in the National School Breakfast Program;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 8,520,000 students in the United States consumed free or reduced-price school breakfasts provided under the national school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966;

Whereas less than half of the low-income students who participate in the National School Lunch Program also participate in the school breakfast program;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 60 percent of school lunches served, and 80 percent of school breakfasts served, were served to students who qualified for free or reduced priced meals;

Whereas the current economic situation, including the increase of nearly 3 percent in the national unemployment rate in 2008, is causing more families to struggle to feed their children and to turn to schools for assistance;

Whereas implementing or improving classroom breakfast programs have been shown to increase the participation of eligible students in breakfast consumption dramatically, doubling, and in some cases tripling, numbers, as evidenced by research in Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin;

Whereas making breakfast widely available through different venues or a combination thereof, such as in the classroom, obtained as students exit their school bus, or outside the classroom, has been shown to lessen the stigma of receiving free or reduced-price breakfast, which often prevents eligible students from obtaining traditional breakfast in the cafeteria;

Whereas providing free universal breakfast, especially in the classroom, has been shown to significantly increase school breakfast participation rates and decrease absences and tardiness;

Whereas studies have shown that access to nutritious programs such as the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program helps to create a strong learning environment for children and helps to improve children's concentration in the classroom;

Whereas providing breakfast in the classroom has been shown in several instances to improve attentiveness and academic performance, while reducing tardiness and disciplinary referrals;

Whereas students who eat a complete breakfast have been shown to make fewer mistakes and work faster in math exercises than those who eat a partial breakfast;

Whereas studies suggest that eating breakfast closer to classroom and test-taking time improves student performance on standardized tests relative to students who skip breakfast;

Whereas studies show that students who skip breakfast are more likely to have difficulty distinguishing among similar images, show increased errors, and have slower memory recall;

Whereas children who live in families that experience hunger have been shown to be more likely to have lower math scores, face an increased likelihood of repeating a grade, and receive more special education services;

Whereas studies suggest that children who eat breakfast have more adequate nutrition and intake of nutrients, such as calcium, fiber, protein, and vitamins A, E, D, and B-6;

Whereas studies show that children who participate in school breakfast programs eat more fruits, drink more milk, and consume less saturated fat than those who do not eat breakfast;

Whereas children who fail to eat breakfast, whether in school or at home, are more likely to be overweight than children who eat a healthy breakfast on a daily basis; and

Whereas March 2 through March 6, 2009, is National School Breakfast Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the importance of the National School Breakfast Program and its overall positive effect on the lives of low-income children and families, as well as its effect on helping to improve a child's overall classroom performance;

(2) expresses support for States that have successfully implemented school breakfast programs in order to improve the test scores and grades of its participating students;

(3) encourages States to strengthen their school breakfast programs by improving access for students, to promote improvements in the nutritional quality of breakfasts served, and to inform students and parents of healthy nutritional and lifestyle choices;

(4) recognizes the need to provide States with resources to improve the availability of adequate and nutritious breakfasts;

(5) recognizes the impact of nonprofit and community organizations that work to increase awareness of, and access to, breakfast programs for low-income children; and

(6) recognizes that National School Breakfast Week helps draw attention to the need for, and success of, the National School Breakfast Program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 210 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 210, a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that providing breakfast in school has a positive impact on classroom performance.

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Good nutrition is an essential part of a child's ability to grow and to thrive. According to the Center on Hunger, Poverty and Nutrition, hungry children have less energy for cognitive and social activities, which undermines their ability to learn.

The National School Breakfast Program was established as a pilot program by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and made permanent in 1975. The program was created to ensure that all low-income students start the school day with a nutritious breakfast and enter the classroom ready to learn.

Over the last five decades, Mr. Speaker, the National School Breakfast Program has continued to grow. It now operates in more than 85,000 public and nonprofit schools and residential care institutions nationwide. In 2007 over 10 million children participated in the National School Breakfast Program each and every day.

Feeding our children a nutritious breakfast is one of the most important ways we can ensure that students get the most out of their education. Eating close to the start of the school day has improved students' memory, problem-solving skills, and performance on standardized tests.

In addition to improving academic performance, Mr. Speaker, school breakfast programs have been shown to decrease absences, tardiness, and disciplinary problems among all students. In the State of Maryland, for example, referrals to the office decreased by 20 percent when classroom breakfast programs were implemented.

Children who eat a nutritious breakfast have better overall nutrition, maintain higher levels of important nutrients, and are less likely to be overweight than children who do not eat breakfast, combating child obesity, which is so important to our country. And in the past two decades, the number of overweight American children, Mr. Speaker, age 6 to 11 has actually doubled.

Making certain that children eat a healthy and nutritious breakfast is an important part of the effort to solve the public health crisis. Across the Nation millions of children go to school hungry every single day. Although 80 percent of institutions that operate a school lunch program also offer a school breakfast program, participation is much lower in the breakfast program. Only about one in three students who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program actually receive breakfast at school. Participation is low because of a variety of reasons, including inadequate time for an in-school meal and the stigma attached to eating breakfast at school.

Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the school breakfast program, I've always believed that every child should be able to participate in program. I helped to establish a pilot program to test the benefits of a universal school

breakfast program in six school districts, including Santa Rosa in my congressional district. And I strongly support providing breakfast for every child, regardless of need.

Providing nutritious breakfasts is a simple but important way to make sure students are more successful in school and helps to set them on the path toward a healthy lifestyle. By making breakfast more widely available, we would be able to share these educational, behavioral, and nutritional benefits with even more of our Nation's young people.

Mr. Speaker, once again I express my support for the National School Breakfast Program, and I thank my colleague Congresswoman MOORE for introducing this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 210, expressing the sense of the House that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on classroom performance.

Created as a pilot program in 1966 and made permanent in 1975, the National School Breakfast Program helps schools serve breakfast to "nutritionally needy" children. The program focuses on those schools where assistance is needed to provide adequate nutrition for students. In fiscal year 2007, over 10.1 million children participated in the school breakfast program each day. Of those, 8.1 million received their meals for free or at a reduced price. Participation has steadily grown over the years from only half a million children in 1970.

The School Breakfast Program is administered in nearly 84,000 schools and institutions by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service through State education agencies, in agreements with local school food authorities.

Public or nonprofit private schools serving grades K-12 and public or nonprofit private residential child care institutions may participate in the school breakfast program. School districts and independent schools that choose to take part in the breakfast program receive cash subsidies from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for each meal they serve. In return, they must serve breakfasts that meet Federal requirements, and they must offer free or reduced-price breakfasts to eligible children.

Last week schools throughout the country celebrated National School Breakfast Week. During the week, school cafeterias nationwide encouraged students to begin their day with a healthful, nutritious school breakfast.

While many States that have implemented school breakfast programs have seen encouraging outcomes, the problem of childhood hunger persists. The Federal child nutrition programs

are helping to end childhood hunger and promote nutrition and wellness, especially in terms of assisting those most in need of beneficial nutrition.

I stand in support of this resolution recognizing the importance of the National School Breakfast Program and the positive impact a nutritious breakfast can have on a child's ability to learn, grow, and develop to their fullest potential.

I ask for my colleagues' support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin, GWEN MOORE.

(Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the National School Breakfast Program, H. Res. 210.

This resolution really elucidates the importance of school breakfast programs and their positive impact on a child's overall academic performance. And, again, I want to thank the Education and Labor Committee for bringing this resolution forward in honor of National School Breakfast Week.

Mr. Speaker, every 35 seconds a child is born into poverty in the United States of America. In fact, as a Nation, we have seen an increase in children living in poverty up to nearly 3 million children, with children representing a disproportionate share of the poor in the United States, as they're 25 percent of the total population but 35 percent of the poor in our population.

And to the extent that the parents of children are responsible for their well-being, the unemployment rate, which has risen from 7.6 percent to 8.1 percent and just in the last month losing 651,000 jobs, 3.6 million jobs lost in the last year, this has caused families to struggle even more to feed their children, and they need to turn to schools for this much-needed assistance.

I can tell you that a study done by the Massachusetts General Hospital in conjunction with Harvard Medical School concluded that children who are at nutritional risk have significantly poorer attendance, punctuality, and grades. But it also showed that these same parents that are responsible for taking care of them self report that food insufficiency means that their children have repeated a grade in school, they have lower scores on standardized tests, lower grades in math, and more days tardy and absent from school.

Studies have also shown that students who fail to eat an adequate breakfast increase their chances for being overweight than children who eat a healthy breakfast on a daily basis.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, these data show that providing breakfast in school has been able to improve attentiveness and academic performance while reducing tardiness and disciplinary referrals.

I just want to mention that these school breakfasts must meet the nutritional standards under the dietary guidelines for Americans, which recommend no more than 30 percent of an individual's calories come from fat and less than 10 percent from saturated fat. In addition, breakfast must provide one-fourth of the recommended daily allowance for protein, calcium, iron, vitamin A, vitamin C, and calories. And I mention this because this might be the best meal the children have all day long.

I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that providing availability, accessibility, and participation in the school breakfast program are some of the best ways to support the health and educational potential of children, particularly low-income children. In my own State of Wisconsin, we saw a significant increase in school breakfast participation with a 25.3 percent growth rate, and this is largely due to our efforts in our State to implement universal classroom breakfasts in most of our Milwaukee public elementary schools.

Let me conclude by saying this and reminding the body of this, Mr. Speaker, that though our country is in the midst of a tough economic time, no child in our community or across the country should ever go to school hungry. When our children are able to eat quality meals in the morning, we see improvements in math and reading scores as well as cognitive skills. If our children are going to be able to compete in a global environment, we need to do everything we can to make sure that they succeed. It's clear that there is a definite need for school breakfast programs right alongside our educational programs.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania, Congresswoman DAHLKEMPER.

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 210, supporting the goals and accomplishments of the National School Breakfast Program.

The National School Breakfast Program continues to play an important role in the health and educational development of our Nation's children by giving them a nutritious start every morning.

Research has shown that students who eat breakfast are more likely to show academic improvement and be more attentive in the classroom, but having access to a nutritious breakfast also does something else as important. The National School Breakfast Program is at the heart of promoting healthy lifestyle choices for our children. They learn the importance of healthful food choices that can prevent further complications of obesity, type 2 diabetes, and other lifestyle diseases.

Healthy kids make healthy adults, and that is why I am proud to support this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it also.

□ 1430

Ms. WOOLSEY. I would like to know if the gentleman from Kentucky has any further speakers?

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to recognize the important role the National School Breakfast Program plays in the education and health of our Nation's children.

I would like to say that it's obvious that if you eat a good breakfast you are much better prepared to learn, to focus, to behave yourself, even want to come to school, you want to be there on time. I can tell you from the breakfast pilot program that President Clinton signed into law that was my legislation, and the six districts around the country that had the program in effect for 3 years, it proved itself.

The administrators thought it was the best thing, the principals thought it was the best, the teachers and the kids loved it, and they were provided a balanced meal. I remember going to one of the schools in my district during the breakfast time, it was around 10:15 in the morning, they had been to their first classes and came out for this breakfast, all kids, not just poor. It had nothing to do with economic status.

There was a group of fifth and sixth graders sitting around the table, and I went over to talk to them and I said, what are you guys talking about? And they said, we're talking politics. I mean, they were having the best time. They were thinking. They were excited. Some of them ate two breakfasts every day because their parents actually fed them breakfast. That was the downside of the program was that all these kids didn't have to have breakfast, but we learned later that middle school and high school are the kids that really don't eat breakfast.

So we are going to be working and building on this program and ensuring that in the United States of America, the wealthiest country on the globe, we will, indeed, be able to feed all of our children so that they are the best learners this country can provide.

Mr. SPACE. Mr. Speaker, this Resolution underscores the importance that the National School Breakfast Program has for classroom participation and student performance. The recent increase in children and families needing food assistance highlights the continuing necessity of these programs to keep America's students healthy, attentive and productive in school. More resources are needed in order to provide low-income children with the same opportunities for educational success as their peers. These efforts are critical to decreasing the hunger problems in our country while working to increase educational attainment levels.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 210.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 222) congratulating the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th Anniversary in measuring student academic achievement.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 222

Whereas the National Assessment Governing Board (the Governing Board) is an independent, bipartisan board created by Congress in 1988 to set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), commonly known as "The Nation's Report Card";

Whereas the Governing Board is made up of 26 members, including Governors, State legislators, local and State school officials, educators, researchers, business representatives, and members of the general public;

Whereas when Congress established the Governing Board to oversee The Nation's Report Card, it ensured that the NAEP would be conducted independently and free from inappropriate influences and special interests;

Whereas in overseeing The Nation's Report Card, the Governing Board identifies subjects to be assessed, determines the content and achievement levels for each assessment, and approves all assessment questions;

Whereas The Nation's Report Card is conducted as a representative sample and currently includes National NAEP assessments (which assess the performance of students in grades 4, 8, and 12 in reading, mathematics, writing, science, U.S. history, geography, and other subjects), State-by-State assessments (which are administered to students in grades 4 and 8 to assess performance in reading, mathematics, writing, and science), Trial Urban District assessments (which report on the achievement of 4th and 8th grade students in 18 urban school districts that participate in reading, mathematics, writing and science assessments), and long-term trend assessments (which are administered nationally every 4 years to students ages 9, 13, and 17 to assess performance in reading and mathematics);

Whereas State participation in NAEP assessments is voluntary with the exception of reading and mathematics assessments, which States are required to administer to public school students in grades 4 and 8 every 2 years in an effort to measure student performance in reading and mathematics;

Whereas all students who participate in NAEP do so on a voluntary basis and NAEP is forbidden by law to maintain or report information on individual students or schools;

Whereas the Governing Board works to inform the public about The Nation's Report Card by communicating its results to a wide range of Americans, including educators, the media, and elected officials and policymakers at the National, State, and local levels; and

Whereas the Governing Board has served an important role in evaluating the condition and progress of American education for 20 years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th anniversary in measuring student academic achievement; and

(2) recognizes past and present members of the National Assessment Governing Board for their service to the Nation in improving elementary and secondary education.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous materials on H. Res. 222 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 222, which recognizes the 20th anniversary of the National Assessment Governing Board. The National Assessment Governing Board is a bipartisan, independent Federal board that sets policy for the National Assessment of Education Progress, or NAEP. NAEP assessments are often referred to as the Nation's report card because these tests are the principal source of data on student achievement nationwide.

NAEP is a congressionally authorized project of the National Center for Education Statistics. The governing board created by Congress in 1988 is made up of governors, State legislators, State and school officials, educators and researchers, all of whom oversee NAEP, identify subjects to be tested and govern reporting of test results.

When Congress established the governing board, we instructed that it be bipartisan and that it be independent, and it has lived up to these expectations and the original vision. The NAEP assessment has been invaluable in providing information on the achievements of students at grades 4, 8, and 12 in reading, mathematics, writing, science, U.S. history, geography and other subjects.

The NAEP State-by-State assessments, which are administered to students in grades 4 and 8 in reading, mathematics, writing and science, have also been helpful in charting what our students know and providing information for a path forward based on real results.

This year, Mr. Speaker, the governing board commemorates 20 years of learning and assessment. To mark this anniversary, the governing board plans to examine the impact of NAEP over the past two decades and look ahead to see how the assessment can continue to play a vital role in measuring student achievement in the future.

In order to highlight these priorities, the board will host a conference to discuss the achievement gap in college and work preparedness with education and policy experts. The governing board has served an important role in evaluating the condition and progress of American education for 20 years.

I thank the governing board for its outstanding service to the Nation in improving elementary and secondary education.

Mr. Speaker, once again I express my support for the National Assessment Governing Board, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing their 20th anniversary. I also want to thank the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) for bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 222, which congratulates the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th anniversary in measuring student academic achievement. Over the last two decades, the governing board, better known as NAGB, has served an important role in evaluating the condition and progress of the American public education system.

The National Assessment Governing Board was created by Congress in 1988 to set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, which is commonly known as the Nation's report card. It was established as an independent, bipartisan board so that the Nation's assessment system will be conducted independently and free from inappropriate influences and special interests.

The governing board is currently made up of 26 members, including governors, State legislators, local and State school officials, educators, researchers, business representatives and members of the general public. In overseeing the Nation's report card, the governing board identifies subjects to be assessed, determines the content and achievement levels for each assessment, and approves all the assessment questions.

It also works to inform the public about the Nation's report card by communicating results to a wide range of Americans, including elected officials and policymakers at the national, State and local levels, educators and the media.

Because of this important work, the Nation's report card is one of the most widely respected assessment tools in

the country. Federal, State and local officials rely on NAGB and NAEP to get an accurate picture of the academic achievement levels of the Nation's students.

In 2002, Congress passed the Education Sciences Reform Act, which reauthorized the activities of the governing board and largely maintained its independent and bipartisan nature. While requiring States to take part every 2 years in its reading and mathematics assessments in grades 4 and 8 in an effort to measure student performance, the bill continues the long-standing practice that State participation in NAEP assessments are voluntary.

All student who participate in NAEP do so on a voluntary basis, and NAEP is forbidden by law to maintain a report or report information on individual students or schools. House Resolution 222 congratulates the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th anniversary in measuring student academic achievement and recognizes the past and present members of the governing board for their service to the Nation in improving elementary and secondary education.

I want to thank my colleague from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) for introducing this resolution. Mr. CASTLE served on the governing board when he was Governor of "The First State," and I want to thank him for his service and for his strong support for ensuring that students have access to a high-quality education in this country.

I am pleased to rise in support of this important resolution and ask all of my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. CASTLE. I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding, and I would like to thank both of the speakers, Ms. WOOLSEY and the gentleman from Kentucky, for rationally explaining a program not many people understand.

Mr. Speaker, I did have the opportunity and the pleasure of serving on NAGB, the National Assessment Governing Board, for several years when I was Governor of Delaware, and it was not easy work, by the way. I would call it a pleasure, but it involves a lot of difficult meetings, discussion of testing or whatever it may be.

But the bottom line is that they do put together the National Assessment of Educational Progress, the NAEP tests, which are given universally as far as the States are concerned, in our country, and are as good a measuring device as we have to the progress of education from year to year. Some of this is quite voluntary, but all States participate in it in grades 4, 8 through 12, particularly in the reading and the math areas, and we can determine that we have done somewhat better, perhaps

a lot better from year to year, as we look at these tests.

I can tell you that those 26 people, who change from time to time and come from a variety of different backgrounds, are all very dedicated to the concept of making this very apolitical, of making it so that it's a fair standard in tests for all those who are going to take it, and making sure that all the reporting requirements are met in a proper way. This goes through the Secretary of Education and is reported by them, and I think they would do a wonderful job with this.

This is, to me, a very important measuring stick. While congratulatory resolutions may not be the most important thing we do in the Congress of the United States, I think recognizing an entity such as this, which is independent of us and independent of the White House, for all that matters, and deals with preparing this kind of reporting, this kind of background for the testing, is a very significant thing to do to make sure that they are being honored for an achievement which I think has been very helpful in terms of dealing with education.

All of us deal with education policy on a regular basis. We know how important it is to understand that what we are doing is perhaps a step, a small step or a large step in the right direction, and I think that the NAEP tests do that.

For that reason I would hope that we could all support this resolution. Again, I thank those who spoke on the floor for their very thorough and excellent explanations of what NAGB does and what NAEP is all about.

Ms. WOOLSEY. I reserve my time for closing remarks.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 222, recognizing the 20th anniversary of the National Assessment Governing Board, and I yield back the remainder of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 222.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

(H.R. 131) to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 131

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is established a commission to be known as the "Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission" (in this Act referred to as the "Commission").

SEC. 3. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

The Commission shall—

(1) plan, develop, and carry out such activities as the Commission considers fitting and proper to honor Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth;

(2) provide advice and assistance to Federal, State, and local governmental agencies, as well as civic groups to carry out activities to honor Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth;

(3) develop activities that may be carried out by the Federal Government to determine whether the activities are fitting and proper to honor Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth; and

(4) submit to the President and Congress reports pursuant to section 7.

SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of 11 members as follows:

(1) The Secretary of the Interior.

(2) Four members appointed by the President after considering the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Ronald Reagan Foundation.

(3) Two Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(4) One Member of the House of Representatives appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(5) Two Members of the Senate appointed by the majority leader of the Senate.

(6) One Member of the Senate appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(b) EX OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Archivist of the United States shall serve in an ex officio capacity on the Commission to provide advice and information to the Commission.

(c) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(d) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission shall—

(1) not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(2) be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(f) RATES OF PAY.—Members shall not receive compensation for the performance of their duties on behalf of the Commission.

(g) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses during the performance of duties of the Commission while away from home or his or her regular place of business, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(h) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum to conduct business, but two or more members may hold hearings.

(i) CHAIRPERSON.—The chairperson of the Commission shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Commission.

SEC. 5. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF COMMISSION.

(a) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—The Commission shall appoint an executive director and such other additional personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform its duties.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—The executive director and staff of the Commission may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for the executive director and other staff may not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(c) DETAIL OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Upon request of the Commission, the Secretary of the Interior or the Archivist of the United States may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

(d) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission may procure such temporary and intermittent services as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform its duties.

(e) VOLUNTEER AND UNCOMPENSATED SERVICES.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Commission may accept and use voluntary and uncompensated services as the Commission determines necessary.

SEC. 6. POWERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) HEARINGS.—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

(b) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out its duties under this Act. Upon request of the chairperson of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

(d) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, DEVISES.—The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of money, services, or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating its work.

(e) AVAILABLE SPACE.—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall make available nationwide to the Commission, at a normal rental rate for Federal agencies, such assistance and facilities as may be necessary for the Commission to carry out its duties under this Act.

(f) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The Commission may enter into contracts with and compensate government and private agencies or persons to enable the Commission to discharge its duties under this Act.

SEC. 7. REPORTS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Commission shall submit to the President and the Congress annual reports on the revenue and expenditures of the Commission, including a list of each gift, bequest, or devise to the Commission with a value of more than \$250, together with the identity of the donor of each gift, bequest, or devise.

(b) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may submit to the President and Congress

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

interim reports as the Commission considers appropriate.

(c) **FINAL REPORT.**—Not later than April 30, 2011, the Commission shall submit a final report to the President and the Congress containing—

(1) a summary of the activities of the Commission;

(2) a final accounting of funds received and expended by the Commission; and

(3) the findings, conclusions, and final recommendations of the Commission.

SEC. 8. TERMINATION.

The Commission may terminate on such date as the Commission may determine after it submits its final report pursuant to section 7(c), but not later than May 30, 2011.

SEC. 9. ANNUAL AUDIT.

The Inspector General of the Department of the Interior may perform an audit of the Commission, shall make the results of any audit performed available to the public, and shall transmit such results to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

SEC. 10. PROHIBITION ON OBLIGATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

No Federal funds may be obligated to carry out this Act.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore (Mr. **ALTMIRE**). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. **LYNCH**) and the gentleman from California (Mr. **ISSA**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **LYNCH**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. **LYNCH**. Mr. Speaker, as a matter of courtesy, I would like to offer the opportunity to address the House first to my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. **ISSA**).

Mr. **ISSA**. I thank the gentleman. In the same vein, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of the bill, the gentleman from California (Mr. **GALLEGLY**).

Mr. **GALLEGLY**. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 131, the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act. To prepare for the upcoming anniversary of his 100th birthday on February 6, 2011, Mr. **BLUNT**, Mr. **FOSTER**, and I, along with over 130 cosponsors from both parties, introduced this legislation creating the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission to pay tribute to our 40th President.

This 11-member bipartisan commission is similar to others created for Presidents Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and Dwight Eisenhower. This commission will develop plans and memorials to honor President Reagan. These events can take place all over the country, from here in Washington, to his birthplace in Illinois, to California, where he lived most of his life.

As a fellow Californian, I had the great privilege of spending time with him when I first came to the House of Representatives in 1986, and his Presidential Library and burial place are not far from my very own home in Simi Valley.

"The Great Communicator" spoke for the American people, capturing the hearts of small-town citizens and world leaders alike. His remarkable career in public service spanned over 50 years. It began as a student leader and sports broadcaster in Illinois and Iowa, and then in Hollywood as an actor and long-time president of the Screen Actors Guild.

California enjoyed an economic resurgence during his term as Governor and, as President of United States, his legacy is extraordinary. In 8 short years as President, Ronald Reagan presided over the international changes and ushered in unparalleled peace and prosperity—not only for our Nation, but, Mr. Speaker, for the entire world.

I want to thank Chairman **TOWNS** and Ranking Member **ISSA**, along with their respective staffs, for their assistance in helping put this bill together. I also want to express my appreciation to the Speaker, majority leader, and minority leader on our side for their help in bringing the bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in supporting H.R. 131.

Mr. **LYNCH**. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. **ISSA**. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans often talk of Ronald Reagan with a special reverence, but I believe that honoring his life in this centennial year of 2011 is much more about honoring the difference that Presidents can make, whether it was James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Franklin Delano Roosevelt—even Eleanor Roosevelt—or Harry Truman.

We have repeatedly honored Presidents after their term, after their life, because it reminds Americans that in fact we are a country that is both a democracy and a led-by-an-executive form of government. We don't have a parliamentary form of government. We have a strong, perhaps the strongest, Presidential form of government.

We hope today that President Obama will some day have a commission that, in fact, the impact of his life at this very troubled time will be every bit as great as the impact was for Ronald Reagan, who came to office in what could have been the continued era of the Cold War and, instead, he helped end it.

The commission that is being formed, if we pass this here today and the Senate confirms, will be composed of Members of Congress and individuals who have knowledge and expertise concerning the life of President Reagan, including childhood friends, career individuals in Hollywood who knew him well and, of course, some Members of Congress.

2011 will be a fitting time. We will be halfway through this President's time. We will be well into a recovery that we all trust and hope for today. And we will be talking about the hope for the future. This will help America focus on the fact that hope for the future, and hard work, whether it was in the Reagan administration or the Obama administration, is part of what each President brings when they address America, lead America, and in fact influence the direction of this Congress.

So, with that, I urge strong support for this bipartisan bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. **LYNCH**. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 131, the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act, creates a Federal commission to honor and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ronald Reagan. The measure has been properly vetted and amended accordingly by the House Oversight Committee and is nearly identical to the bill approved by the House in the last Congress. However, in line with calls for a more fiscally responsible government, the only real change to this year's bill is the inclusion of amending language to prevent the expenditure of Federal funds to carry out the work of the commission.

Ronald Reagan was born in Illinois in 1911. He later moved to California, where he became a successful Hollywood actor and later the president of the Screen Actors Guild. On the screen, he was best known for portraying George Gipp, a famous player who, on his deathbed, famously urged his teammates to "go out there with all they've got and win just one for the Gipper." President Reagan would carry the nickname Gipper and the boundless optimism that he epitomized in that quote for the remainder of his life.

After serving two terms as the 33rd Governor of the State of California, in January, 1981, Ronald Reagan was sworn in as our Nation's 40th President. As we are all aware, Mr. Reagan would hold and serve as the Commander in Chief of our country for two terms, between 1980–1988.

Known as the "Great Communicator," President Reagan spoke ably and directly to the American people about the pressing issues of his time. He positioned the United States as a strong counterpoint and a beacon of freedom and hope in the face of an oppressive Soviet Communist regime. Whether urging Premier Gorbachev to "Tear down this wall," or declaring it "Morning in America," President Reagan, through his words and deeds, embodied the eternal optimism that is at the core of our American spirit.

Early in his Presidency, President Reagan is said to have remarked that, "What I'd really like to do is to go down in history as the President who caused the American people to believe in themselves again."

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that most people will agree that President Reagan's optimism in the face of great difficulty has great relevance today, as they are in harmony with President Obama's current message of hope and renewal for our country in the midst of our current challenges.

I am confident that upon enactment of H.R. 131, the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission will be able to find ways to respectfully and appropriately honor and pay tribute to the accomplishments of one of America's recent and notable leaders, the late President Ronald Reagan.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of H.R. 131, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim previous time yielded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. With that, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. I thank my friend for yielding. I thank the House for its indulgence.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure. Perhaps only one generation in a century is fortunate enough to actually know a truly great leader, and ours was that generation. But our children and our children's children will know him, too, through the power of his words and the force of his ideas, his undying faith in freedom, his eternal belief in America, and they will know him, and know him well, because our generation will make sure of it.

The passing of Ronald Reagan didn't mark the end of an era. Rather, it marked the beginning of one—an era of American renaissance and resurgence, an era when America rediscovered her belief in liberty and faith. Ronald Reagan opened that era. It's now for our generation to cultivate it, to expand it, and to extend it to the next.

He often reminded us that, for America, the best is yet to come. He was right. Because his memory will be walking beside us and counseling us and guiding us to those bright decades and centuries ahead.

This commission is an important act in support of a large and solemn pledge—a pledge from this generation to all future generations that we will keep Ronald Reagan's memory alive, that we will uphold and advance his vision of America's greatness and of her goodness, and this act is but one thread in the tapestry of memory that will stretch through time to the latest generation.

Mr. ISSA. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. I would simply urge my colleagues to join us in the support of H.R. 131. We urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 131, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. TITUS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 210, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 222, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 131, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 210, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 210.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 383, nays 11, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 110]

YEAS—383

Ackerman	DeLauro	Kratovil
Aderholt	Dent	Lamborn
Adler (NJ)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Lance
Alexander	Diaz-Balart, M.	Langevin
Altmire	Dicks	Larson (CT)
Andrews	Dingell	Latham
Arcuri	Doggett	LaTourette
Austria	Donnelly (IN)	Latta
Baca	Doyle	Lee (CA)
Bachmann	Dreier	Lee (NY)
Bachus	Driehaus	Levin
Baird	Edwards (MD)	Lewis (CA)
Baldwin	Edwards (TX)	Lewis (GA)
Barrett (SC)	Ehlers	Linder
Barrow	Ellsworth	Lipinski
Bartlett	Emerson	LoBiondo
Barton (TX)	Eshoo	Loehsack
Bean	Etheridge	Lofgren, Zoe
Becerra	Fallin	Lowe
Berman	Farr	Luetkemeyer
Berry	Fattah	Lujan
Biggert	Filner	Lungren, Daniel
Bilbray	Fleming	E.
Bilirakis	Forbes	Lynch
Bishop (GA)	Fortenberry	Mack
Bishop (NY)	Foster	Maffei
Bishop (UT)	Fox	Manzullo
Blackburn	Frank (MA)	Markey (CO)
Blumenauer	Franks (AZ)	Markey (MA)
Blunt	Frelinghuysen	Marshall
Bocchieri	Fudge	Massa
Boehner	Gallely	Matheson
Bonner	Garrett (NJ)	Matsui
Bono Mack	Gerlach	McCarthy (CA)
Boozman	Giffords	McCarthy (NY)
Boren	Gingrey (GA)	McCaul
Boswell	Gonzalez	McClintock
Boucher	Goodlatte	McCollum
Boustany	Gordon (TN)	McDermott
Boyd	Granger	McGovern
Brady (PA)	Grayson	McHenry
Brady (TX)	Green, Al	McHugh
Braley (IA)	Green, Gene	McIntyre
Bright	Griffith	McKeon
Brown (SC)	Guthrie	McMahon
Brown-Waite,	Hall (NY)	McMorris
Ginny	Hall (TX)	Rodgers
Burgess	Halvorson	McNerney
Burton (IN)	Hare	Meek (FL)
Butterfield	Harman	Melancon
Buyer	Harper	Mica
Calvert	Hastings (FL)	Michaud
Camp	Hastings (WA)	Miller (FL)
Cantor	Heinrich	Miller (MI)
Cao	Heller	Miller (NC)
Capito	Hensarling	Miller, George
Capps	Herger	Minnick
Capuano	Herseth Sandlin	Mitchell
Cardoza	Higgins	Mollohan
Carnahan	Hill	Moore (KS)
Carney	Himes	Moore (WI)
Carson (IN)	Hinchey	Moran (KS)
Carter	Hinojosa	Moran (VA)
Castle	Hirono	Murphy (CT)
Castor (FL)	Hodes	Murphy, Patrick
Chandler	Holden	Murphy, Tim
Childers	Holt	Myrick
Clarke	Honda	Nadler (NY)
Clay	Hoyer	Napolitano
Cleaver	Hunter	Neugebauer
Clyburn	Inglis	Nunes
Coble	Inslee	Nye
Coffman (CO)	Israel	Oberstar
Cohen	Issa	Obey
Cole	Jackson (IL)	Olson
Conaway	Jackson-Lee	Olver
Connolly (VA)	(TX)	Ortiz
Conyers	Jenkins	Pallone
Costa	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarell
Costello	Johnson, Sam	Pastor (AZ)
Courtney	Jones	Paulsen
Crenshaw	Jordan (OH)	Payne
Crowley	Kagen	Pence
Cuellar	Kanjorski	Perlmutter
Culberson	Kaptur	Perriello
Cummings	Kennedy	Peters
Dahlkemper	Kildee	Peterson
Davis (AL)	Kilpatrick (MI)	Petri
Davis (CA)	Kilroy	Pingree (ME)
Davis (IL)	Kind	Pitts
Davis (KY)	King (NY)	Platts
Davis (TN)	Kingston	Polis (CO)
Deal (GA)	Kirk	Pomeroy
DeFazio	Kissell	Posey
DeGette	Kline (MN)	Price (GA)
Delahunt	Kosmas	Price (NC)

Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)

Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Speier
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry

Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NAYS—11

Akin
Broun (GA)
Campbell
Chaffetz

Duncan
Flake
King (IA)
Lummis

Paul
Poe (TX)
Shadegg

NOT VOTING—37

Abercrombie
Berkley
Brown, Corrine
Buchanan
Cassidy
Cooper
Ellison
Engel
Gohmert
Graves
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hoekstra

Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Larsen (WA)
Lucas
Maloney
Marchant
McCotter
Meeks (NY)
Miller, Gary
Murtha

Neal (MA)
Putnam
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rush
Space
Stark
Tiahrt
Young (FL)

□ 1857

Mr. BLUNT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 110, I was necessarily detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

CONGRATULATING NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 222, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 222.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 9,

answered “present” 1, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 111]

YEAS—388

Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bocieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)

Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLaHunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Emerson
Eshoo
Linder
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseht Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)

Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebach
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Massa
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne

Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky

Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Speier
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)

Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NAYS—9

Akin
Broun (GA)
Campbell

Flake
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)

Paul
Poe (TX)
Souder

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Kissell

NOT VOTING—33

Abercrombie
Berkley
Brown, Corrine
Buchanan
Cassidy
Cooper
Ellison
Engel
Graves
Grijalva
Gutierrez

Hoekstra
Johnson (IL)
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Klein (FL)
Kucinich
Larsen (WA)
Lucas
McCotter
Meeks (NY)
Miller, Gary
Murtha

Neal (MA)
Putnam
Radanovich
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rohrabacher
Rush
Space
Stark
Young (FL)

□ 1906

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RONALD REAGAN CENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 131, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 131, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 371, noes 19, answered “present” 1, not voting 40, as follows:

[Roll No. 112]

AYES—371

Ackerman	Courtney	Jackson (IL)
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Jackson-Lee
Adler (NJ)	Crowley	(TX)
Akin	Cuellar	Jenkins
Alexander	Culberson	Johnson, Sam
Altmire	Cummings	Jones
Andrews	Dahlkemper	Jordan (OH)
Arcuri	Davis (AL)	Kagen
Austria	Davis (CA)	Kanjorski
Baca	Davis (IL)	Kaptur
Bachmann	Davis (KY)	Kennedy
Bachus	Davis (TN)	Kildee
Baird	Deal (GA)	Kilpatrick (MI)
Baldwin	DeFazio	Kilroy
Barrett (SC)	DeGette	Kind
Barrow	Delahunt	King (IA)
Bartlett	DeLauro	King (NY)
Barton (TX)	Dent	Kingston
Bean	Diaz-Balart, L.	Kirk
Becerra	Diaz-Balart, M.	Kissell
Berman	Dicks	Kline (MN)
Berry	Dingell	Kosmas
Biggert	Donnelly (IN)	Kratovil
Blibray	Doyle	Lamborn
Bilirakis	Dreier	Lance
Bishop (GA)	Driebeaus	Langevin
Bishop (NY)	Duncan	Larson (CT)
Bishop (UT)	Edwards (TX)	Latham
Blackburn	Ehlers	LaTourette
Blumenauer	Ellsworth	Latta
Blunt	Emerson	Lee (NY)
Boccieri	Eshoo	Levin
Boehner	Etheridge	Lewis (CA)
Bonner	Fallin	Lewis (GA)
Bono Mack	Farr	Linder
Boozman	Fattah	Lipinski
Boren	Fleming	LoBiondo
Boswell	Forbes	Loeb sack
Boucher	Fortenberry	Lofgren, Zoe
Boustany	Foster	Lowe
Boyd	Fox	Luetkemeyer
Brady (PA)	Frank (MA)	Lujan
Brady (TX)	Franks (AZ)	Lummis
Braley (IA)	Frelinghuysen	Lungren, Daniel
Bright	Gallely	E.
Broun (GA)	Garrett (NJ)	Lynch
Brown (SC)	Gerlach	Mack
Brown-Waite,	Giffords	Maffei
Ginny	Gingrey (GA)	Maloney
Burgess	Gonzalez	Manzullo
Burton (IN)	Goodlatte	Marchant
Butterfield	Gordon (TN)	Markey (CO)
Buyer	Granger	Markey (MA)
Calvert	Green, Al	Marshall
Camp	Green, Gene	Massa
Campbell	Griffith	Matheson
Cantor	Guthrie	Matsui
Cao	Hall (TX)	McCarthy (CA)
Capito	Halvorson	McCarthy (NY)
Capps	Hare	McCauley
Capuano	Harman	McClintock
Cardoza	Harper	McCollum
Carnahan	Hastings (FL)	McGovern
Carney	Hastings (WA)	McHenry
Carson (IN)	Heinrich	McHugh
Carter	Heller	McIntyre
Castle	Hensarling	McKeon
Castor (FL)	Herger	McMahon
Chaffetz	Herseth Sandlin	McNerney
Chandler	Higgins	Meek (FL)
Childers	Hill	Melancon
Clarke	Himes	Mica
Clay	Hinojosa	Michaud
Cleaver	Hodes	Miller (FL)
Clyburn	Holden	Miller (MI)
Coble	Holt	Miller (NC)
Coffman (CO)	Honda	Minnick
Cole	Hoyer	Mitchell
Conaway	Hunter	Mollohan
Connolly (VA)	Inglis	Moore (KS)
Conyers	Inslee	Moore (WI)
Costa	Israel	Moran (KS)
Costello	Issa	Moran (VA)

Murphy (CT)	Ruppersberger	Tanner
Murphy, Patrick	Ryan (OH)	Tauscher
Murphy, Tim	Ryan (WI)	Taylor
Myrick	Salazar	Teague
Napolitano	Sánchez, Linda	Terry
Neugebauer	T.	Thompson (CA)
Nunes	Sanchez, Loretta	Thompson (MS)
Nye	Sarbanes	Thompson (PA)
Obey	Scalise	Thornberry
Olson	Schakowsky	Tiahrt
Ortiz	Schauer	Tiberi
Pallone	Schiff	Titus
Pascrell	Schmidt	Tonko
Pastor (AZ)	Schock	Towns
Paulsen	Schrader	Tsongas
Pence	Schwartz	Turner
Perlmutter	Scott (GA)	Upton
Perriello	Scott (VA)	Van Hollen
Peters	Sensenbrenner	Velázquez
Peterson	Serrano	Visclosky
Petri	Sessions	Walden
Pingree (ME)	Sestak	Walz
Pitts	Shadegg	Wamp
Platts	Shea-Porter	Wasserman
Poe (TX)	Sherman	Schultz
Polis (CO)	Shimkus	Waters
Pomeroy	Shuler	Watson
Posey	Shuster	Watt
Price (GA)	Simpson	Waxman
Price (NC)	Sires	Weiner
Rahall	Skelton	Welch
Rehberg	Smith (NE)	Westmoreland
Reichert	Smith (NJ)	Wexler
Reyes	Smith (TX)	Whitfield
Rogers (AL)	Smith (WA)	Wilson (OH)
Rogers (KY)	Snyder	Wilson (SC)
Rogers (MI)	Souder	Wittman
Ros-Lehtinen	Speier	Wolf
Roskam	Spratt	Wu
Ross	Stearns	Yarmuth
Rothman (NJ)	Stupak	Young (AK)
Roybal-Allard	Sullivan	
Royce	Sutton	

NOES—19

Cohen	Johnson (GA)	Olver
Edwards (MD)	Johnson, E. B.	Paul
Filner	Lee (CA)	Payne
Flake	McDermott	Slaughter
Fudge	Miller, George	Woolsey
Hinchev	Nadler (NY)	
Hirono	Oberstar	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Grayson

NOT VOTING—40

Abercrombie	Hoekstra	Putnam
Berkley	Johnson (IL)	Radanovich
Brown, Corrine	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Rangel
Buchanan	Klein (FL)	Richardson
Cassidy	Kucinich	Rodriguez
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Roe (TN)
Doggett	Lucas	Rohrabacher
Ellison	McCotter	Rooney
Engel	McMorris	Rush
Gohmert	Rodgers	Space
Graves	Meeks (NY)	Stark
Grijalva	Miller, Gary	Tierney
Gutierrez	Murtha	Young (FL)
Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in the vote.

□ 1916

Mr. BOCCIERI changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber today. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 100, 111, and 112.

HONORING DR. GREGORY FREYDMAN

(Mr. McCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Dr. Gregory Freydmann of California.

Dr. Freydmann spent most of his life seeking freedom for his family, and finally fulfilled that dream at the age of 72 when he legally immigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union. He had been a renowned oncologist there and had risked his livelihood and his liberty to speak out against Soviet abuses.

Having seen firsthand the misery that tyranny inflicts on its people, Dr. Freydmann devoted himself to learning English, studying the American system of government, and passing on his appreciation of American founding principles to his children and to his grandchildren. He proudly became a U.S. citizen at the age of 77.

The highlight of his life was spending his final years in freedom with his beloved wife, Polina, secure in the knowledge that through a lifetime of struggle, he had secured the blessings of liberty for his posterity.

May he now rest in peace.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the importance of the National School Breakfast Program and to express my support for the resolution by the gentlelady from Wisconsin that we passed this evening.

The 100 percent Federally funded school breakfast programs, particularly where breakfast is served in the classroom, have shown to increase student attentiveness, academic performance, and decrease tardiness and disciplinary referrals.

Classroom breakfast programs are important because they reduce the stigma of receiving free or reduced price breakfasts and increase participation in school breakfast programs. In my district, the Troy City School District has adopted a grab-and-go program where kids can get their breakfast right in their hallways and bring it into the classroom to eat with their peers. These schools, particularly School 2, 12 and 14, and the Carroll Hill School, have all seen their breakfast participation numbers rise to 50 to 60 percent of all students in their schools, where the average elsewhere in New York State is only 20 percent.

I hope that we can do around the country what Troy City School District has done in my congressional district. In these tough economic times, we need to ensure that more students are taking advantage of school breakfast programs, and breakfast in the

classroom has been shown to do just that.

UTILITARIANISM BEAT DOWN HUMAN DIGNITY

(Mr. INGLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to lament the fact that, today, in a stroke of a pen, utilitarianism beat down human dignity.

When President Obama lifted the ban on stem cell research additional lines, what he is saying really is that it's okay to kill some humans in order to improve the conditions of other humans. The problem with that is it devalues all humans when we say that you can kill some to benefit others.

We can do this research. We can do the more promising research on adult stem cells, and we can get to the place where we don't produce excess embryos. Other countries, Germany, for example, limits the number of fertilized eggs, but we produce excess embryos. We can stop that practice. We can also have adoptions of the existing excess embryos.

So Madam Speaker, it is a sad day when utilitarianism beats down human dignity. It's a sad day for America. This is a time when we should be, in a technological age, establishing bright-line tests so that we understand and preserve the dignity of human life. It's also not the interference of politics into science, but the bounding of science by ethics and morality.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF PASTOR FRED WINTERS

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, yesterday, in my district, and close to my hometown in Maryville, Illinois, Pastor Fred Winters lost his life to an assailant who came into the church during the first service.

Pastor Winters was a friend, and had done a tremendous job in growing First Baptist Church in Maryville to a church of great size and a great ministry in the area.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the community of Maryville, Illinois. My thoughts and prayers go out to the church and congregants of First Baptist Church in Maryville.

We live in an age of sinful human beings. Sometimes we don't understand God's will, but the people at First Baptist Church in Maryville are trying to make sense of an issue that doesn't make sense. All they do know is that God is in control, and that Pastor Winters is joined in heaven with Christ, his Lord.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

BORDER WAR IN HUDSPETH COUNTY AND CULBERSON COUNTY, TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I bring you news from the second front. I'm talking about the front on the southern border of the United States with Mexico.

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to spend some time with two of the sheriffs of the Sheriff's Border Coalition. There are 20 counties in Texas that the sheriffs are members of the Border Coalition. And I spent time with two of those sheriffs, Sheriff Arvin West from Hudspeth County and Sheriff Oscar Carrillo of Culberson County. These two counties are directly east of El Paso County.

The size of these two counties put together are the size of Connecticut and Rhode Island put together. They're massive counties and sparsely populated. The sheriff in each of these counties and his deputies know everybody that lives in the county, unlike the Border Patrol, who come and go from the community. They never really know the people or the culture, or what takes place in those counties. But the border sheriffs and their deputies, since most of them grew up there and were born there, they know the people who should be there and those people that are outside, as they call them, "out-of-towners."

This past weekend, the Mexican Government sent 5,000 troops to Juarez, Mexico. That's the town across from El Paso. The reason is because of the drug cartels and the violence. Drug cartels are doing war with not only the United States, but they're doing war physically with the Mexican military. And it's so dangerous down there that Fort Bliss, which is across the river from Juarez, those soldiers that have been in Afghanistan and Iraq, are not permitted to go to Juarez. The State Department has warned Americans not to go to Juarez because of the danger of kidnappings and the violence that has occurred there all because of the drug cartels.

But going back to the two counties of Culberson County and Hudspeth County, the question keeps being asked, "Well, all that crime just stays there on the Mexican side, it never comes to the American side." Let me give you a

statistic, Madam Speaker, how all the border sheriffs have to fight the drug epidemic and the crimes of violence and the property crimes in their county.

Sheriff Arvin West, Hudspeth County, has two jails; one has 125 prisoners, the other one has 545 prisoners. And on Saturday night, every person in both of those jails except one was illegally in the United States. There was one citizen. And these people are not charged with immigration violations. They hadn't just been picked up for illegally entering the country. They had been arrested for crimes against the Federal Government, felonies and misdemeanors against the State of Texas. He said if he didn't have to keep arresting folks illegally coming into the country and committing crimes in his county, he could close his jail down because there was only one citizen in the whole county or in the county jails. And he said seldom does he have any local folks put in that jail.

So, yes, the border crime has come to the United States and will only get worse. But to show you how innovative these sheriffs are, these are poor counties, these are low-income counties where you've got hardworking people—sparsely populated, however—and so the sheriff have no budget for vehicles. Unlike the drug cartels that have Humvees, they have SUVs, pickup trucks, all of the things that they want. Border sheriffs—this sheriff especially—has no budget in the county for vehicles, so he has to confiscate drug vehicles—when he captures the bad guys with drugs—and then he uses those vehicles after they have been seized for his deputies. He has 20 vehicles that he uses for his 17 deputies, and he has two or three of these 18-wheelers.

□ 1930

Yes, he's captured an 18-wheeler that's seized by the good guys against the bad guys, and on all of these vehicles, he puts this little notice down here on the bottom. It's on the bottom of this cab. It says semi-truck, \$80,000. The drugs were worth \$40,000. The bad guy got 10 years in the penitentiary, and the seizure of this vehicle is priceless. So that's how he runs his sheriff's department: with seized vehicles. I commend him for doing that.

It's important that we understand that the drug smugglers have more vehicles, better vehicles, more money, more men, and better equipment. They use GPS tracking devices to keep up with their drug loads. As I mentioned, they use Humvees. We have occurrences of the Mexican military helping move the drugs into these counties. Of course, Homeland Security denied that occurred. They said that didn't happen. But they didn't understand that Arvin West, Sheriff West, had the whole Mexican infiltration into his county on videotape, and once he videotaped it and showed it to Homeland Security, they said, well, maybe they are intruding and helping the drug cartels.

And these people don't make any money. The sheriff of Hudspeth County makes \$39,000 a year. Sheriff Carrillo of Culberson County makes \$32,000 a year, and their deputies make about \$27,000 a year. And they are protecting us from the drug cartels moving into the country. A guy just bringing drugs into the United States is going to make up to \$1,500 a load, making far more than our own border protectors.

There are four commodities being traded on the border. Two are going north and two are going south. The two going north are people and drugs, and they're being worked together. In other words, the coyotes work with the drug cartels to smuggle people. The two commodities going south: guns and money, and that's what's being traded on the border with Mexico.

It's important, Madam Speaker, that we provide our border protectors with the Humvees they need. We need to give them better equipment, and we need to put troops on the border because the purpose of government is to protect the people.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, we have an organization in this country called the Independent Sector. It's a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition of charities, foundations, and corporate philanthropic programs collectively representing tens of thousands of charitable groups in every State across the Nation. The mission of this organization is to advance the common good by leading, strengthening, and mobilizing the nonprofit community.

The reason that I bring this up tonight is that the way that the administration, through the budget, wants to help fund health care reform is they want to reduce the amount that people can deduct when they make charitable contributions. And this organization that represents the Volunteers of America, the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, all these organizations, says that if the legislation passes in the

budget in its present form, they will lose \$4 billion a year in charitable contributions because people won't be able to deduct the same amount that they've been deducting before when they make a contribution to these charities. And I think that's tragic because people who need help from the Salvation Army or the Red Cross or these other philanthropic organizations really need help, and if they can't get it from those organizations, the place they are going to go to try to get it is where? From the taxpayers, from their local trustee, their State government, their city government, or the Federal Government. So what we are going to see is a transfer of responsibility from these independent philanthropic organizations to these local government entities and the Federal Government if we start reducing the amount that people can deduct in charitable contributions. I think that's tragic.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Geithner, appeared before the Senate this past week, and he was asked about this, and he said, well, he thinks there might be other ways that they could fund the health care changes in this country without dipping into the charitable contribution deductions. Well, the head of OMB indicated, I think, yesterday on Face the Nation that Mr. Geithner probably wasn't right, that once the American people see how this money is going to be used, they'll understand it.

I don't believe that, Madam Speaker. I believe the American people, when they give money to a charity, want to make sure that that money is going to that charity and that they get their charitable deduction for that. If they don't get that charitable deduction, they're going to start cutting back on the money they give to charities, and the minute they start doing that, Madam Speaker, then you're going to see these charities start wanting for money because they won't be getting the money they have been getting in the past.

These organizations have said collectively they are going to lose \$4 billion a year if the budget proposed by the administration and proposed by the House leadership and the Senate leadership, if that goes through. And it may go through tomorrow. Then these charities are not going to get that money, \$4 billion in losses, and it's going to be borne by other institutions. And I submit to you it will be the local governments, the State governments, and probably the Federal Government. I think that's just dead wrong.

I want to end up tonight by saying one more thing, Madam Speaker, to my colleagues back in their offices. We have been increasing the money supply, printing more money very rapidly, and we are indebting the people of this country to the tune of trillions of dollars. The Secretary of the Treasury is going to have another \$3 trillion that he's going to have to print to give to fi-

nancial institutions to keep them above water. The budget that we're talking about, the bailout bill that we're talking about, the stimulus package, all of those add up to trillions of dollars more in spending.

If you look at this chart, you will see that the money supply in this country has been pretty level up through the year 2000, and then it starts going up like a rocket, and now it's going straight up. And what that means to the American people, and I hope the American people, if they happen to be paying attention, and I can't talk to them, I know, but if they happen to be paying attention, I hope they realize that the increase in the money supply is going to come directly to them eventually. It's going to affect them in higher taxes and higher costs of goods and services when they go to buy them. If you have more money in circulation, and we're looking at trillions of dollars more that's going to be printed, that money is going to be chasing fewer goods and services. What that means simply is if you go to buy a loaf of bread, it's going to cost more. If you buy a gallon of gas, it's going to cost more. If you buy electricity in your home, when you turn the switch on, it's going to cost more.

So I would just like to say to my colleagues, we really need to do something about spending. We have got to say to the administration and our colleagues in the House and the Senate it's time to cut spending. We don't need to spend more. We don't need to spend these trillions of dollars. We ought to be cutting taxes instead of doing that to stimulate economic growth, and we need to make sure that the American people and the future generations of this country are not saddled with more debt and hyperinflation.

There are so many things going on right now, Madam Speaker, that troubles me, it's not even funny. And it all comes down to spending more money and imposing more burden on the American taxpayers and the future of this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ENERGY INSECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, I have been doing this series on our energy insecurity problem and opportunity. And it clearly is that. It's both a danger and an opportunity. Our energy insecurity, the fact that we are dependent on foreign nations for our transportation

fuels and the fact that we really don't have a great plan at this point about how to produce electricity. So we've got this energy insecurity and we've got a danger there, but we have also got an incredible opportunity.

But speaking especially to fellow conservatives, I wonder if our conservative environmental policy is being controlled by former Vice President Al Gore. You know, it's said that he who angers you controls you. So I wonder if the fact that when we hear "climate change," we see Al Gore and we get angry; it makes him actually the one that's controlling our view of climate change. Wouldn't it be something if we conservatives were actually under the control of Al Gore because he angers us so much that we can't see past him and some claims he makes about climate change? Some conservatives think that's a bunch of hooey. But if we can't see past that to the job creation opportunity and to the national security risk, then is he really controlling us?

So what I'd like to ask, especially fellow conservatives, to consider is, is that really where we want to be? Do we really want to be controlled by a former Vice President, or do we want to see the opportunity, job creation opportunity, and the incredible national security danger, and then move to act to solve it?

Of course, I think that the solution that conservatives bring is an understanding of markets and how economics work, and how it is that people making profit will actually solve this energy insecurity problem.

So try this out for size: If I'm making Inglis widgets at my factory, and I'm belching and burning and basically dumping ash on my neighbor's property, it's a pretty good deal for me. It stinks for my neighbor. Now, under Biblical law my neighbor would have a cause of action against me. Under English common law, under American common law, and by virtue of EPA and regulations, my neighbor would have a cause of action against me or a regulatory regime to help him out.

Now, if I'm heard to complain to the local congressman, no, now, listen, you can't make me put scrubbers on my smokestack because that will drive up the price of my widgets. Inglis widgets will go up in price, and that will make it so that the customer is hurt. Well, will it? Or will it actually create the opportunity for another entrepreneur across town who is ready to compete with me and take me out because he's got a cleaner process, a smaller smokestack, if you will? So if society wants to move along to that better product that my competitor is offering across town, then what we have to do is figure out a way to make me keep my ash on my property. If you do that, it's called internalizing the externals. It's something that we conservatives can understand. It's a market distortion that we have got to fix. If we fix it, then my incumbent technology, the cheaper widgets because I get to dump ash on my

neighbor's property, suddenly becomes more expensive, and the competing technology now takes me out.

That's where we are with gasoline, for example. The reason the gasoline is so cheap, and it is so cheap, is there are all these negative externalities that aren't recognized by the market: the national security risk, the climate change risk, the environmental problems associated with it. If you stuck those onto the product of gasoline and said, now, gasoline, compete with plug-in hybrids, suddenly plug-in hybrids would be popping up everywhere because the competition would be able to take out the incumbent technology.

I think that's an inherently conservative idea. I think it's understanding how markets work, how economics work, and how profit can solve this energy insecurity. Because if we get to the place where that competing technology can take out the incumbent technology, we will break this addiction to oil, and we will improve the national security of the United States, and we will create jobs, because those new technologies have a lot of jobs in them.

So even if you think that climate change is a bunch of hooey, there are two other reasons to pursue it that are equally valid and very exciting opportunities to fix this energy insecurity that we face, and that I look forward to talking with you again about.

My colleagues, this is an opportunity for us to work together to build consensus, to collaborate as Republicans and Democrats. We can fix this problem.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials on the topic of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. FUDGE. I am a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, better known as the CBC. Currently, the CBC

is chaired by the Honorable BARBARA LEE from the Ninth Congressional District of California. My name is Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, representing the 11th District of Ohio.

CBC members are advocates for the human family nationally and internationally and have played a significant role as local and regional activists. We continue to work diligently to be the conscience of the Congress.

But understand all politics are local. Therefore, we provide dedicated and focused service to the citizens and the congressional districts we serve.

The vision of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus to promote the public welfare through legislation designed to meet the needs of millions of neglected citizens continues to be our focal point for the legislative work and political activities of the Congressional Black Caucus today. More than ever, it is necessary that we, as leaders, help those whom we serve. As the floor moderator today for the Congressional Black Caucus special order hour, I have to add that it is more important than ever that we put the money where our mouth is.

For the past 8 years, we have lived in a cloud of corporate misdeeds, backroom dealings, and extreme tax cuts that have only benefited the wealthiest people in this Nation. Due to the Bush administration's lack of government oversight, intervention and inattention, we now face the toughest economy in our lifetime.

Such neglect and inattention have led to this storm called a housing crisis, a collapse of the stock market and rising health care costs that leaves most Americans in a state of shock. In 2008, nearly 4 million jobs were lost across the Nation. In February of this year, the Greater Cleveland area unemployment rate was at a staggering 10.2 percent. The overall African-American unemployment rate is even greater, currently over 13 percent.

In these dire times, something must be done to help our Nation and our people get back on their feet. The best way to address these issues and illustrate our desire to better the lives of so many Americans is with our budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.

I want to thank President Obama for his thoughtful budget that signals a new era of responsibility. I want to applaud his attention to our Nation's most urgent needs, job training and job creation, health care and education.

I would like to thank him for the particular attention that this budget gives to the mental health needs of our veterans. Finally, I applaud this administration for paying attention to those that need us the most, our children and our elderly.

As the former mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, and on behalf of all mayors and all local leaders, I want to focus on the administration's full funding of Community Development Block Grants. The fiscal year 2010 budget provides \$4.5 billion to fully fund this program.

As legislators, our number one priority is to get ourselves out of this current economic crisis. To accomplish this, we must look to programs that help improve and grow our economy. Historically, for every \$1 of funding through a Community Development Block Grant, nearly \$3 is leveraged for economic development projects.

When a city needs a grocery store or more affordable housing, this block grant funding is utilized and helps build neighborhoods. This is one of the few programs where the money goes directly to the locality. It does not get tied up in State government or Federal affairs. The money immediately goes to the areas where local leaders can help expand economic opportunities for their local citizens.

In Cleveland, Community Development Block Grant dollars have gone to assist our housing trust fund. Every dollar of investment leverages \$5 of private investment. In 2008, housing trust fund funds were committed to projects that supported nearly 700 energy efficient housing units.

This money has also gone to combat foreclosure. CDBG funds are the principal source of funds for supporting a range of activities to respond to the aftermath of foreclosures. This year, block grants can provide \$300,000 for anti-predatory lending programs administered by Cleveland's Department of Consumer Affairs and other non-profit agencies, over \$400,000 for code enforcement and almost \$900,000 for nuisance abatement and land reutilization on properties that are either vacant or have been through foreclosure.

Community Development Block Grant dollars will help with housing services for low- or moderate-income families. These funds are a critical source of assistance for seniors and low-income families with funding to repair their homes. This year over \$2.2 million is expected to be used for home repair assistance from these funds.

This grant will also helped community-based organizations. Approximately \$8 million supports a network of organizations that provide housing services, neighborhood safety programs and community outreach.

Finally, CDBG funding will help city-wide services, housing and financial services such as foreclosure counseling, homeownership counseling, landlord tenant counseling and fair housing assistance. The funds also support nonprofits that offer social services such as educational programming for youth and food programs for our seniors and low-income families.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the distinguished woman and our chair, the gentlelady from California, Ms. BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you very much. Let me thank the gentlelady from Ohio for yielding, but also for your leadership and for that very clear and powerful statement and ensuring that the Congressional Black Caucus each week has an opportunity

to talk about those issues that are affecting the African-American community, communities of color and the entire country. So thank you, Congresswoman FUDGE.

There are just a couple of things I would like to say tonight on the budget. I have to acknowledge and thank the Chair of the Budget Committee for the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, who consistently each year pulls together his task force. I serve as a member of his task force to look at the overall budget and to make sure that the Congressional Black Caucus' focus is couched within the fact that historically we have been and continue to be the conscience of the Congress and that the budget reflects our values. The budget is a moral document, and it's within that perspective and lens that we look at the budget.

Let me say a couple of things with regard to the budget, specifically. As an example of what I am talking about, the HIV/AIDS pandemic is devastating the African-American community and communities of color both here and, of course, abroad, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

We believe the time has come to really put forth a national HIV/AIDS strategy, a plan, and fund it. We also established in 1999, under the great leadership of Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, a minority AIDS initiative. And this year we are pushing to fund that minority AIDS initiative at least at \$645, \$650 million. That's really a drop in the bucket, but we have to start somewhere, and we want to make sure that our tax dollars, as it relates to HIV and AIDS, are targeted and directed to where the problem is the greatest.

And, of course, we know, when you look at the statistics in the African-American community, HIV and AIDS is off the scale. So we must do more and we have to get this moving very quickly.

Secondly, I would like to just mention this defense budget. Each and every year there are a few of us who talk about the fact that we all, and as the daughter of a lieutenant colonel, I am, as I always say, a military brat, support a strong military, a strong national defense and our troops.

It's time that we look at a realistic national security budget that reflects our national security priorities, not to continue to fund many of those Cold War-era weapons systems, which are being built for a threat that doesn't exist. So we are looking at ways, and I have found in the GAO studies that have been conducted on the defense budget, there's billions of dollars in waste, fraud and abuse in the defense budget.

It's time we look at closing some of those items that GAO identified, and I believe we could get up to some \$80-some billion in cuts just based on closing the items that have been identified as waste, fraud and abuse.

So there is much to look at in terms of the budget. This is a very difficult year, it's a very difficult time, given the economic recession, and so we must have a budget that reflects the values of our country, including addressing poverty in a big way.

Eight more million people now are living in poverty as a result, unfortunately, of the policies of the last 8 years. We have to begin to look at how we address these moral gaps, and that's what they were. That's what they are, the dignity of all human beings must be reflected in our budget, and that is what the Congressional Black Caucus seeks to do to ensure that every man, woman and child, not only in the Black community, but throughout the country, have support and our Federal Government policies that support their dignity and their worth.

So I want to thank Congressman BOBBY SCOTT and Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE for their leadership on that and just know that we are working day and night to make sure that whatever budget comes out of here reflects the moral values of our country. Thank you.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you for your leadership as well.

At this time, Madam Speaker, I would like to yield to the distinguished Member from the Virgin Islands, Representative CHRISTENSEN.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you. Madam Speaker, I join my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues this evening for what I consider to be one of the important, if not the most important aspects of our Federal budget, health and health care spending. I also rise, not only as a colleague and as a physician, but as a Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust, whose mission is to ensure that our community's unique health and health care issues are at the forefront as our budget process proceeds.

Finally, I rise to applaud President Obama for the steps he has taken and hopefully will continue to take to ensure that the social determinants of health are fully considered and solutions fully integrated into health care reform.

In recent years I have joined some of our other colleagues and religious leaders on the Hill to address the budget as a moral document, as you have heard our chairwoman speak to a few minutes ago, as a document that represents our country's values and our values of the people. In those years we decried the fact that the budget that was sent to Congress by the then President did not include support or in any way foster work that we are called to do by our faith, not just Christian faith but any faith, essentially to ensure that the needs of the least of these are met.

The Congressional Black Caucus, as a group, has also met with past Presidents, just as we met with President Obama 2 weeks ago. In these meetings

we outline our agenda priorities and indicate our hope for the President's support in health care, education, housing, economic opportunity, improved relationships with African and Caribbean countries and a number of other areas of concern.

Until now, neither have the goals of the religious community or the CBC, which parallel each other, even been partially approached. In fact, if it were not for the strong position taken by the Democrats in this body, and some of our colleagues on the other side who joined us, to protect them, programs like Medicaid, Head Start, Healthy Start, maternal and child health programs and many others would have been severely compromised and the lives of many of our fellow Americans with them.

We don't have to look far to remember that expanded coverage for uninsured children was impossible to accomplish until this new administration was sworn in. But change is coming. We, as a country, have reason to hope for a new and a better day. We are pleased, as we look at the outline that President Obama has sent for the year 2010, that it resonates not just with our request or that of religious leaders over the years, but that it responds to many of the long unmet needs of the American people.

It builds on the very important down payment made by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which funds are already beginning to reach communities like mine across the country and provide a lifeline to families in this time of dire economic stress.

I want to spend a few minutes to focus on the health care parts of our budget, because as long as I have been in Congress, the grave differences in health care access, quality and health outcomes that have had a detrimental impact on the health wellness and life opportunities of millions of Americans every single year have been the focal issues of my efforts and those of the Congressional Black Caucus. These differences not only exist along lines of race and ethnicity, but also along lines of gender and geography.

The sad reality is this, because we as a Nation have not taken the steps necessary to close these health and health care gaps, it is estimated that 100,000 people, a disproportionate number of whom are racial and ethnic minorities, die prematurely from preventable causes every year. Additionally, because progress to address the root cause of health inequities, the social determinants of health, have been stagnant, health disparities are no longer only a racial and ethnic minority health problem. Today, they are an American issue.

This failure to improve health, to address its root causes, not only affects the health quality and lives of people of color, but undermines them for everyone in this country and weakens our country's position of leadership in the world.

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The good news, however, is that we are in a new political day, and I am extremely heartened that our new President, President Obama, is aggressively taking steps to continue work begun in the ARRA and is making a sizable commitment—to the tune of \$634 billion over 10 years—on health care reform.

And so we are pleased that he is making good on his promise to ensure and improve the health and health care of those millions of Americans who have been left out and forgotten for far too long and, in doing so, to bring about meaningful and thoughtful reform to our Nation's very broken and outdated health care system.

What is more, I applaud the President's emphasis on prevention, with this budget's historic \$1 billion investment in prevention, as well as the other provisions that will address social determinants that are not normally seen as health-related, an investment worth making, especially since studies confirm that roughly 60 percent of the premature deaths in the United States are attributable to social circumstances, environmental conditions, and behavioral choices, all of which could be addressed through prevention and a more holistic approach to health.

For example, we know that educational attainment has a direct and indirect impact on health and health care. Well, so does President Obama, whose fiscal year 2010 budget strengthens and reforms the Nation's public schools and expands funds for college.

We know that having access to safe and affordable housing, as well as living in communities that are structurally and socially stable, has an impact on health. The President's budget provides \$1 billion for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. He has a fund that will prevent homelessness and strengthen families. Additionally, the President's plans invests \$3.2 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help low-income families with their home heating and cooling expenses, which will not only prevent accidents, but will also help ensure that our homes are not places that make us sick.

We also know that the foods we eat have a direct impact on our health and well-being, which is why the President's budget, which includes robust funding to expand access to nutrition programs, especially among women and children and seniors, is so critically important to support.

Further, we are impressed that this budget seems to reflect an understanding of one aspect of health disparity elimination that previous budgets and many fail to grasp, that health disparity elimination will require far more than just covering all of our Nation's uninsured, as important is that is in itself.

In fact, we know that the lack of insurance accounts for roughly only 20 percent of the racial and ethnic differences and morbidity and mortality

that we hear about and experience year after year.

So, I am extremely heartened that this budget includes significant increases in funding to many of the critically important programs that are needed to ensure health equity.

For this reason, Madam Speaker and colleagues, I look forward as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust to working with my colleagues in Congress and with the President to ensure that we reform our health care system in a manner that does not just get it done, but that gets it done right.

To that end, while this budget aptly and appropriately emphasizes reducing un-insurance, bolstering prevention, closing gaps in the health care workforce, and ensuring that our Federal programs are strengthened, I want to stress that health disparity elimination must be an integral component as well.

Not only do health disparities cause, as I said, about 100,000 preventable deaths each year; in fact, health disparities are among the key factors that drive up health care costs that we, as a Nation, struggle to contain every year.

I know that designing a health care system that addresses the social determinants of health that exacerbate health inequities will require the willing to take bold steps and the visionary leadership to ensure that more than one step is taken. However, I also know that we have both of those today—both in the administration and in this Congress.

Together, we can reform our health care system in a manner that champions health equity, and together we can make this Nation, one person and one community at a time, healthier, stronger, and better prepared for tomorrow.

I yield back the balance of my time, and I thank you for taking on the challenge of this Special Order every Monday evening, and for focusing on the President's budget tonight.

There are other health and health care spending priorities set by the President in this budget that are downright long overdue.

For example, the budget enhances HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment by increasing resources to detect, prevent, and treat HIV/AIDS domestically, especially in the hardest hit communities, a disproportionate number of which are African American communities.

The President's budget sets aside \$330 million to increase the number of doctors, nurses and dentists who practice in areas where there are known shortages in health professionals will play a very significant role in ensuring that whenever someone needs the services of a trained health care provider, he or she will be able to get it without having to travel 450 miles.

By investing \$19 billion in health information technology, we will ensure that as we modernize our nation's health care system to maximize its efficiency, coordination and privacy, that we do so in a manner that does not create a two-tiered health care system.

This investment in HIT also will ensure that if and when another natural disaster hits one

of our cities along the coast or in one of the U.S. Territories, that survivors do not have to fear that their paper medical records will have perished in the basement of a hospital or clinic, or that their health and that of their families will be compromised because they do not have immediate access to needed health records.

The budget's \$6 billion investment in cancer research—which reflects the Administration's multi-year commitment to double cancer research funding—will play a key role not only in reducing the egregious racial and ethnic disparities we see in cancer treatment, but also in cancer deaths.

And the budget's investment in Medicaid and Medicare to strengthen the programs, bolster their integrity and accountability, and expand the programs' research agendas is critically important, as these two programs play pivotal roles in ensuring that our nation's most vulnerable have access to needed health care services and treatments.

Finally, and of utmost importance to the people I represent in the U.S. Virgin Islands, President Obama signals in his budget outline his intention to move towards equity for the Territories in health and other related programs.

There are so many positive elements to this budget that indicate that we are headed in the right direction; especially as it relates to fixing our nation's health care system and that with his leadership and that of the leadership in this body we are beginning to build a health care system for the 21st century and beyond.

For this reason, Madam Speaker and colleagues, I look forward—as the Chair of the CBC Health Braintrust—to working with my colleagues in Congress and with the President to ensure that we reform our health care system in a manner that does not just get it done, but that gets it done right.

To that end, while this budget aptly and appropriately emphasizes reducing un-insurance, bolstering prevention, closing gaps in the health care workforce and ensuring that our federal health programs are strengthened, I want stress that health disparity elimination must be an integral component as well.

Not only do health disparities cause about 100,000 premature preventable deaths each year, but in fact, health disparities are among the key factors that drive up the health care costs that we—as a nation—struggle to contain each year.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank very much. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlelady from the Virgin Islands, who is always, in our caucus and in this Congress, a leading advocate for health care reform. I thank her.

At this time I would yield to the distinguished Member from the State of Virginia, Mr. ROBERT "BOBBY" SCOTT.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Thank you. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from Ohio for organizing this Special Order. The budget is an extremely important part of our work, and I thank you for allowing us the opportunity to discuss what is going on with the budget.

Before we can discuss the budget going forward, we have to understand where we are and the mess that we are in. Sometimes you need charts to adequately describe exactly what the situation is.

This is a chart from 1989 showing the budget deficit. Starting in 1993, we went up to surplus. Unfortunately, in 2001, we had a complete collapse of the budget. 2008, the deficit will be about here. A little over \$400 billion. 2009, it will literally be off the chart. So, this is what we are dealing with.

In 1993, we made the tough choices and eliminated the deficit, went into surplus, and had enough in the beginning of 2001, enough of a surplus to pay Social Security for 75 years without reducing any benefits or to pay off the entire debt held by the public by last year. We were in good shape financially in 2001, but we made the wrong choices. And the rest is history.

The deterioration in the budget from the \$5.5 trillion surplus to the probably \$3 trillion, maybe \$4 trillion deficit, was a swing of almost \$9 trillion. Almost \$1 trillion a year deterioration in the budget.

This chart shows where the public debt has exploded. In 2001, we were headed by the budget projections to paying off not only the debt held by the public, but all of the debt; putting the money back in the trust funds and everything else. Instead, the debt has totally exploded.

Now, one of the problems with the debt is that more and more of it is coming from foreign countries. Primarily, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and China. And that has foreign policy implications. You can't negotiate a good trade deal when the next thing out of your mouth is, Can I borrow some money? When you're borrowing money from Saudi Arabia, obviously that has implications on our ability to negotiate gasoline and oil prices.

The debt held in foreign countries was headed towards zero. It has, again, exploded. Now we have over \$2 trillion of our debt held in foreign countries.

Now, we got in this mess because we had unaffordable tax cuts, primarily for the wealthy. People get mad when you say "primarily for the wealthy," but it was done, presumably, to create jobs.

This chart shows how, in the last 8 years, in terms of job growth, we have experienced the worst job growth since the Great Depression. Herbert Hoover is the only President on this chart who's done worse than the last 8 years.

There's very poor economic activity, as measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Average. This chart shows the Dow Jones Industrial Average from Hoover, Franklin, Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton. The worst since Herbert Hoover in terms of Dow performance in the last 8 years.

Now, some people have said that all those tax cuts actually increased revenues. Well, that is not exactly true. Since 1960, this chart, just to break down the color code, a green bar is a year in which we achieved record revenues in individual income tax. Record revenues. A red bar is one where a record was not achieved.

You will notice since 1960, tax cuts, tax increases, recessions, depression; everything since good years, bad years, since 1960, there were only 2 years in which we did not achieve a record. So, to say that we had additional revenues wouldn't be saying much, because we always have revenues.

But it's even worse than that because in 2001 we did not achieve a record. 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005. We went 5 consecutive years, something that has not happened since they started taking records in the 1930s, did you go more than 2 years without achieving a record. You have had world wars and everything else. The record: 5 years without a record.

So, the cuts in taxes did not increase revenues. It actually decreased revenues. And, as I said, they get mad when you say the taxes were cut for the rich.

This chart shows for people under \$20,000—from \$20,000 to \$50,000; \$50,000 to \$75,000; \$75,000 to \$100,000; \$100,000 to \$200,000; \$200,000 to \$1 million; over \$1 million, how much you got out of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. You notice that if you made over \$1 million, you did well. And if you made under \$20,000, or even under \$50,000, you hardly need ink to draw the bar.

There's one particular tax that, in the Obama budget, will be repealed. Put back the way was. It's about a \$20 billion tax cut every year. And this is how it's distributed. If you make over \$1 million, you get about \$17,000. \$200,000 to \$1 million, you get several hundred dollars. \$100,000 to \$200,000; on average, you will get you will get about \$1 a month. Under \$100,000; on average, you will get not a dime.

Now, one of the things that is extremely important and why it is crucial that we get this budget under control, and that is I referred to Social Security. This is a Social Security cash flow chart, showing the blue bars are bringing in now more than we are paying out. In 2017, we will start paying out more than we are bringing in.

This is \$200 billion deficit, a \$600 billion deficit. By 2040, we will be approaching \$1 trillion, paying out more Social Security than we are bringing in. If we had the \$5.5 trillion, you needed about \$4 trillion in the bank today, drawing interest. We could pay Social Security for 75 years without reducing benefits.

Unfortunately, we are going broke, and this is one of the reasons we have to get our budget under control quickly, because otherwise we will get into a deficit situation in Social Security that we will never get out of.

One of the things that we have to do is make sure that the expenditures and tax revenues get back under control. Federal revenues traditionally, in the past, have been less than the expenditures. We have been spending more than we are bringing in. That is deficit spending.

By the mid 1990s, we actually reduced spending and increased revenues, to the point where we had that healthy surplus that was set to go as far as the eye

could see. Unfortunately, in 2001, we passed tax cuts that we could not afford, collapsing revenues and, in fact, even increased as a percentage of GDP, increased spending, creating this deficit. We have to get back under control where the revenues are more than the expenditures.

This year, we are out of control because we have had the stimulus package, we have had the bailouts, and everything. But this is just a 1-year spike. And we need to get the budget back under control. And we can do that. Under the Obama budgets, we will be back into more traditional levels of deficits.

But, when we get down here, that should not be the end. That is just the first step. We are going to have to continue bringing spending down and revenues up so that we will have our surplus so that we will be able to afford Social Security.

The President's budget, the first thing it does is reinstates what is called PAYGO. One of the reasons that we could maintain fiscal responsibility in the 1990s is we had a process called PAYGO. Pay as you go. If you offer a spending program, you have to pay for it. You have to raise the taxes to pay for it or cut some spending somewhere else. If you want to cut some taxes, you have to cut some spending or raise some other taxes. Everything do you, have you to pay for it. And if you don't pay for it, you can't pass it.

Unfortunately, in 2001, PAYGO expired, and the tax cuts were passed without paying for it. Increased spending took place without paying for it. And we got into the ditch that we are in. We now are back under PAYGO, where we are going to have to pay for what we do.

One of the things that the Obama budget does, it presents an honest budget. There are many things in the last few budgets that were just kind of left out. We knew every year we'd been continuing some tax cuts year after year. We knew each year we'd put those back in. Those weren't in the budget as introduced.

□ 2015

The war spending. We know we are at war. There was zero for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan in the budgets as introduced. We knew we were going to spend money on those wars. In fact, there were about \$250 billion worth of known expenditures that we knew we were going to spend that were left out of the budgets. The Obama budget includes everything that everybody knows that we are going to spend.

So with PAYGO and fiscal responsibility, we are going to at least reduce the deficit 50 percent in the first term of President Obama; and after we get there, we will continue to make progress.

The President's budget makes significant investments in energy, getting us from dependence on foreign oil and creating millions of jobs in energy, cre-

ating clean energy jobs. His budget brings down the skyrocketing costs of health care, and makes focused investments in education, one of the things on energy, alternative forms of energy and conservation and significant research investments.

In health care, we need to make investments in cost control to make sure that we can control health care. The Social Security chart and the Medicare chart are very similar. The Medicare chart is actually even worse because of the accelerating health care costs. We need to get those costs under control, because if we don't get Medicare under control, health care generally will consume the entire budget. We need to make sure that we are investing in access to make sure that those who have insurance can keep it, because as the costs go up, people are losing their health insurance.

He is making significant investments in education, making sure that tax credits for education expenses are increased and Pell Grants are increased so more and more people can go to college. And we want to make sure that we invest in elementary and secondary education, particularly early childhood education.

The budget makes a unique investment in nurse home visits. These have been shown to significantly reduce a lot of problems, one of which is child abuse, which is highly correlated with future crime by these nurse visits. The nurse visits have been studied. I serve on the Judiciary Committee, and they have found that those who have had the advantage of the nurse visits were one-third as likely to be arrested 18 years later as those who did not have the visits; education is much better off; child abuse is down. So those visits will be a very important investment in our future.

And, finally, the President's budgets continues large increases in veterans health care. We had significant increases 2 years ago and last year, and we will continue those increases so our veterans get the health care that they certainly have earned and deserve.

We need to make some tough choices. The President says one of the most difficult choices are making expenditures today that save money in the future. Nobody wants to spend the money today if the savings won't occur for 5 or 10 years.

One of the bills that I have introduced is the Youth Promise Act that makes investments in young people to keep them out of trouble. We are spending more money per person in incarceration. We have got more people locked up today per hundred thousand population than anywhere on Earth. We could significantly reduce the need for that correlation if we made investments up front, getting young people on the right track and keeping them on the right track. The Youth Promise Act does that. It has an interesting aspect to it. When you save money, the localities that come up with their local

plans will try to identify where they are saving money, and those agencies should kick in to keep the program running.

The State of Pennsylvania did the collaborative approach that is anticipated in the Youth Promise Act, and they funded a number of programs for a total cost of approximately \$60 million, \$60 million, and they calculate they save over the next few years over \$300 million, because they made those investments and reduced crime significantly. Nobody wants to make the first investment; so the Youth Promise Act will make those investments and, hopefully, the localities will continue the programs, saving significant money in the future.

But we have to make the tough choices. And if we don't make those tough choices, if we don't get the budget under control, we are going to be spending entirely too much money on interest in the national debt, we will jeopardize Social Security and Medicare. But with the leadership of President Obama, the Congressional Black Caucus is committed to addressing our priorities in a fiscally responsible way. Social Security, Medicare, and our future depend on it.

Again, I want to thank the gentle lady from Ohio for her leadership and giving us the opportunity to talk about the budget today.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BOBBY SCOTT.

For those of us in the Congressional Black Caucus, we clearly know that Representative SCOTT is the best in the Congress when it comes to analyzing budgets and providing information to his colleagues. So, again, I thank him.

Madam Speaker, I thank you. I thank the members of the CBC for allowing me to act in their behalf tonight; as well as I want to say that we do very much appreciate the fact that we now have an administration and a President who does believe in an honest budget, who does believe in doing the things that are necessary to get this country back on track.

I yield back the balance of my time.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to call attention to our economy and the fiscal discipline we

need to implement to get our country back on the right path.

Right now, the American people are hurting; and Republicans want to work with the President to get the American people back to work. We want to get the economy going again. But we do know, and the American people know, we cannot tax, spend, and borrow our way back to a healthy economy. So we really want to be included in the opportunity to solve our problems, and this is a huge problem.

Just a couple of days ago, there was a summit held at the White House on health care, and they had Members of Congress, they had experts in the health field come together to look at how we are going to solve this problem.

The economy right now is the hugest problem that we have. Why aren't we working together and really coming together to solve this problem? We have so much expertise in this Congress. We have economists, we have people in the industry. We really should be sitting down to solve the problem, rather than going back and forth and arguing on the House floor, because our country and the international economy is suffering. And it is not the first time nor the last. We have seen crisis like this before and we have pulled through. So I am optimistic that we can get together and really work to solve the problem.

And look what happened on 9/11. We came together. We came together as a Congress, united to face that problem and to face that challenge, and to find the solutions and how we were going to deal with it. This is another problem. Not maybe as quite the magnitude; maybe it is, but we need to get together and really work together.

We face the largest economic decline since World War II, along with unprecedented domestic unemployment. February's numbers show that there was 8.1 percent unemployment. And we face unprecedented foreclosures, facing about one in nine families right now. It is time for us to unite again as leaders and pull through once more.

I wish that the administration would convene this bipartisan, bicameral summit to focus all of our energy on solving economic problems. We want to solve health care, we want to solve energy, we want to solve climate change. We want to do all of these things. We want to solve education. But I think all of that energy really needs to be brought to one force to come back and address the economic situation. We should be focusing on saving and spending plans that put America on a path to responsibility and long-term success.

With TARP money of \$700 billion, a housing bill that was \$300 billion, with the recent passage of the \$825 stimulus package, and with the Federal Reserve putting so much money into some areas, and a pending \$410 billion appropriation bill, I have to say that my constituents are upset. They are upset because the spending appears to be

recklessly out of control, with no accountability or direction. And, unfortunately, with the recent release of the administration's budget for fiscal year 2010, we continue down this heavy spending path. And while we only know the basics of the budget proposal, it certainly has been a mixed bag.

So tonight we are here, and we want to address the concerns in the budget. There are the good, the bad, and what we call the ugly. I have a little chart here that addresses the President's 2010 budget. As I said, we have got the good, the bad, and the ugly.

We acknowledge that there is an entitlement crisis, that there is a budget fix for the AMT. We are looking at the Medicaid part D. With the bad, there is an increase in spending of \$3.9 trillion in 2009. It increases nondefense appropriations by 9.3 percent. The war funding is a gimmick. The ugly, a \$1.4 trillion tax increase in a recession, \$1 trillion entitlement expansion, in the 2009 deficit, \$1.8 trillion. And we double the debt.

These are the things that we are going to be discussing tonight, and I am glad to have my colleagues here to participate. I would like to call on the gentlelady from Tennessee for her comments right now, MARSHA BLACKBURN.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I thank the gentlelady from Illinois so much for yielding, and I appreciate her yielding the time to me. And we have other members of our Republican conference who are here, female members, who are coming to talk about the issues that we know are affecting our constituents and we know are affecting women in our districts.

As the gentlelady from Illinois has mentioned, the number one thing that we do hear from our constituents, and especially our women small business owners, is their concerns over the economy; and they are concerned about the economic security, the retirement security that is in front of them as they look to winding down their careers. And they are also very concerned about what is happening for the secured opportunities of future generations and the security that they will want to enjoy.

I have a chart with me that I think says a lot about what we see happening here in Washington now as well as what is going to be coming in years to come.

Let's go back and look at the deficit. We are hearing a lot about the deficit and the data. Some of my constituents last week were saying, well, we continue to hear this comment that they inherited this debt. How could that be? Everyone has been voting on this for years.

So we made a chart looking at Federal spending going back to January 2007 through today. And, of course, in 2007 is when all of the problems really started to manifest themselves in the housing industry and leading toward the situations that we saw happening with the banks that began in early

2008, and then moving on into the budget situation that we have today. So we prepared a chart to lay out what has happened since January 2007, with our Federal deficit, which is the line that you will see in green, the graphing in green.

Then, discretionary spending, which is that portion of our budget that we actually can get into and make some decisions about how we are going to spend those dollars, and that is where we should be reducing what the Federal government spends.

Then, mandatory spending. Much of that is the entitlements which the gentlelady from Illinois just referred to mentioning very appropriately that, yes, indeed, we do have an entitlement crisis that is coming, and that is spending that is going to have to be dealt with in order for the future generations to enjoy security, whether it is economic security, whether it is freedom and opportunity.

□ 2030

Take a look at what has happened. You can see where we were in January 2007. And the debt, the Federal debt, at that point in time was right over \$3 trillion. Our deficit in 2007 was just over \$400 billion.

Now let's look at what happened. The first stimulus plan that was passed early last year, \$152 billion, you can see what that did to the federal deficit. It really popped it up. You can also see what that did to discretionary spending. And then look at what happened with pre-TARP, the amount of money, the \$300 billion, that went into those loans from March to September of 2008 when we were dealing with Bear Stearns, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, IndyMac and AIG. You can see what happened with our deficit, which is the green line, the discretionary spending, and the bump-ups that came there, and then you see the mandatory spending rising as we move through that. Then TARP in September 2008, you can see what happened there with the \$700 billion and the escalation that has carried forth there, the auto bailout of \$14 billion.

President Obama's second stimulus, we call this plan B, and that ended up being \$1 trillion. You see what it did to our deficit. We are at over \$2 trillion in deficit for this fiscal year so far. Also you can see what happened with our discretionary spending. And take a look at what has happened with our mandatory spending through there. And then of course the omnibus, the \$410 billion omnibus bill that had passed the House and it is still in the Senate without a resolution to it.

So through all of these votes, I will highlight that the Speaker, our President who was in the Senate, and Leader REID in the Senate, all were "yes" votes on that. They were part of driving this deficit and these discretionary spending hikes, the mandatory spending spikes that you are seeing over there also.

And by the way, going back to January 2007, that is when the Democrats took control of both Houses, both Chambers, the House and the Senate, and started pushing forward the spending increases. And they have now moved the national debt from just over the \$8 trillion that was here to nearly \$11 trillion. As of January 3 of this year, the debt was at \$10.7 trillion. And as I mentioned earlier, that big green spike over there is for the \$2 trillion in deficit spending they have already accrued this year. And we are hearing that once they pass the \$410 billion, that it is going to be even higher. And we are also hearing that they are going to come back and ask for more TARP spending.

So when I talk with females and with female-owned small businesses in my district, the number one thing that comes up is the economy. And what does this do? Knowing that political freedom and economic freedom are linked, what does this do to future generations? From the women in my district, I have heard repeatedly, they understand that we cannot spend our way out of this recession. You can't spend your way to recovery. You can't spend your way to prosperity. You can't build prosperity on a foundation of debt. And so many of our small business owners understand that. And women every single day come to me and say, Marsha, it is time for people to address these economic issues and do it with wisdom, do it with some forethought, and be very careful that we are not passing on to future generations a debt that they are unable to handle.

I was out visiting with some women's groups a couple of weeks ago. A lady came up to me. She was carrying a young infant. And I noticed this because I have a 9-month-old grandson, Jack, and I have another grandchild, Chase, who will arrive in June. And the lady walked up to me with this child in her arms. And she said, "Marsha, I want to tell you something." She said, "it absolutely infuriates me when Congress spends money I haven't made yet. But now I have got this 6-month old grandbaby. And let me tell you something. It makes me so angry. I want to come to Washington and bang on the doors because it makes me so angry that you're spending money that she has not made yet. And she doesn't even know to be upset with Congress." She said, "I know you're voting 'no' on all these spending bills. Please do all you can to arrest the out-of-control spending."

And I will yield back to the gentlelady from Illinois. I thank you for the time. And I thank you for the efforts to help work to preserve our economic freedom for future generations.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlelady from Tennessee. You have done so much in bringing out all of this to our attention. And I really appreciate it.

I would like to just read a paragraph from one of my constituents, a woman in the district named April. And she

said, "First, thank you for voting against the stimulus package at the beginning of February. As an independent, I am disturbed by what has happened in Washington these past few weeks. I am urging you and Members of Congress to exercise restraint when examining the President's budget and any other stimulus packages. Eliminate wasteful spending. The American people are mindful these days of their own budgets at home, and so should the Federal Government.

"In addition, what happened to the President's and other Members' promise that they would eliminate earmarks? It seems like Washington needs some management. Thank you for your time."

And with that, I would like to call on my good friend from Florida, GINNY BROWN-WAITE.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. I thank the gentlelady from Illinois.

Last week I had some folks in town from Florida, and they didn't get to see snow very often obviously living in Florida. And when they came here, it was about some of the tax issues. And they were darn mad, the same way that Mrs. BLACKBURN's constituents were. And when they came into my office, I said to them, "so what do you think about the snow?" They said, "do you mean the snow job of the stimulus package and then the budget that the President came out with?"

These are small business owners who are very concerned about their ability to stay in business. We all know that the majority, about 80 percent of jobs created recently over the last 8 and 10 years, have been from small businesses. And they realize that they are the ones who are going to be hit very hard by President Obama's proposed tax increases.

This chart clearly shows the 2010 tax increases that are proposed by President Obama. It shows cap-and-trade, which most business people call "cap-and-tax," at \$646 billion increase, small businesses and investors, the red color, \$635 billion tax increase, and other tax increases, about \$149 billion. Now, where are those tax increases going to come from? Obviously by taxing the small business person. We have heard about how the higher tax won't affect anyone earning less than \$250,000. The truth of the matter is that it is actually at the \$200,000 level, that is the level at which the Obama tax increases begin to take effect for small business owners filing as singles.

My husband and I owned a few businesses. And we were always what is called a Subchapter S corporation. And a Subchapter S corporation, or a partnership, or a limited liability, LLC, at the end of the year, they take the profits, and they add it to their income, and they pay income tax based on that. Well when you combine a hoped-for profit as a Subchapter S corporation or a partnership and you add it to whatever income you may have drawn from

the business or your spouse may have brought from another job, you're at the \$250,000 level, very, very quickly. But if you're a single taxpayer, it is \$200,000. We don't hear a lot about that. We only hear about \$250,000, which to the average person sounds kind of like a lot of money. But we must remember that over 3 million taxpayers with small business income actually earn more than \$250,000. That is the level at which these tax increases are going to take effect. These, again, are the people back in our districts. These are the Barbara Manzis in my district. She has a metal fabrication business. And you cannot continue to tax these job-creating small businesses out of existence.

A constituent sent me a cartoon. It happens to be the Wizard of Id. And it is someone running for office. And in this, it says, "what are you offering the peasants in your election speech today?" And the politician goes on to say, "nothing they can afford to refuse. Elect me and I promise free health care, free housing, free clothing, food stamps and jobs for everybody." And then he asks the crowd, "are there any questions?" And someone yells out from the crowd, "who needs a job?"

Well, that is exactly where we are going in this country with some of the tax policies. If everything out there is "for free," and you have the President and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle saying that we need to have some people in this country just paying a little bit more, I'm sure that my colleagues forget that many of the taxpayers in these top two income tax brackets earn significant portions of that income from being a major employer. So we are going to really end up taxing those who create the jobs.

I did a telephone town hall last week in my district. And when you do a telephone town hall, you don't select just people in your own party. In my case I do it by county, county by county. And we call individuals and we try to ask them their opinion. Overwhelmingly, whether it was a Republican or a Democrat or an independent, the President's budget was not popular, nor was the stimulus package. The concern was that it really did not help small businesses. And in my district, I don't have major employers. The majority of the employers in my district are either health care, remember this is Florida, are either health care, government, or small businesses. So we are going to limit it to the previous two, because under the Obama Democrat tax plan, we are going to be putting a lot of these small businesses out of business at a time when they are struggling to stay alive in this economy.

The folks back home quite honestly don't understand how this phenomena can be, how people think that they can tax their way out of this declining economy. Because all increased taxes are going to do is make sure that the declining economy continues. And that is pretty darn sad.

We also on this chart had some figures for cap-and-trade. What cap-and-

trade is going to do, most people call it cap-and-tax, is it is going to raise taxes on small businesses. It is going to raise energy costs on small businesses and certainly on residents at a time when people are already struggling. I go home every weekend to the Fifth Congressional District. And people up there say things like, "are you the only sane one there who is voting against this?" I assure them that my colleagues, like the gentlelady from Illinois, the gentlelady from Tennessee and many other Members are concerned and are also voting against it. What we are going after here is trying to bring some common sense and help for small businesses.

Unfortunately, President Obama's wealth distribution plan would not even cover the increased energy costs associated with his cap-and-tax, or cap-and-trade, plan. It is really cap-and-tax plan. It is a tax plan, ladies and gentlemen.

Americans fear that we are going down the road to socialism. And I recall Margaret Thatcher's comment about socialism, and that is, the problem with socialism is that eventually you run out of other people's money. Unfortunately, with the budget that the President has proposed, the TARP spending, deficit spending, the proposed budget and the stimulus package, I believe, and I know that the gentlelady from Illinois believes, that we are headed down to a path of possible socialism.

That, my colleagues, is not acceptable. And that is not what our American economy needs at this time.

With that, I will yield back to the gentlelady from Illinois.

□ 2045

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlelady for bringing up the tax issue. I am reminded of the words of Ben Franklin: "In this world, nothing is certain but death and taxes."

We certainly have to think that the President's recent budget proposals essentially, and unfortunately for American families and small businesses, can bring a certainty to the latter, and that is taxes, and increased taxes to be specific. I appreciate you bringing that up.

I have another letter from one of my constituents, Rich. He says, "The current budget proposal is a path to nowhere, in my opinion. It will lead to a tax increase for all Americans. There should not be a carbon tax on businesses. All that will do is raise prices and cut jobs. Instead, put an incentive for businesses to lower energy. Also, why increase capital gains taxes at this time, or at any time. All that does is force businesses to go elsewhere. We need to keep the taxes where they are or lower for businesses. We need to encourage companies and people to invest in the U.S. The net effect is more profit which leads to more tax revenue for the country. Just taxing the rich doesn't work." And I thank Rich for that letter.

Let me talk about a couple of other taxes because I think the important financial task before Congress right now is fostering economic growth. Number one is keeping taxes on families down; and number two is helping American business stay competitive; and three, eliminate wasteful spending in Washington.

In one of my former lives I was a probate lawyer and estate lawyer. I frequently witnessed the devastating effect that the estate tax or death tax had on family-owned farms and businesses. I think that we did put a limit on that. We changed it. Since 2001, Congress passed a 10-year tax cut package that included a provision that would slowly phase out the death tax and eliminate it all together in 2010.

However, the administration budget proposes that we continue to tax, to use the estate tax at 2009 levels instead of what we should be doing and permanently zeroing out this onerous tax, this double tax. So instead of 2010 when it would have been eliminated permanently, if this passes, and you have to remember the President proposes and the Congress disposes. But if it were to happen, we would continue with a tax that taxes about 3.5 million at a 45 percent rate. That's a little lower than it has been in the past sometimes. The only good thing about it is it does bring back the step up. During these uncertain times and turbulent times, I don't think that it is time to place another tax burden on families and small businesses. It is certainly time to cut taxes and encourage businesses and families so they will be able to create jobs.

One other tax that really concerns me is the budget proposes to limit deductions for charitable contributions, and we know how much contributions have meant for this country from the time of early on in the country with all of the things that so many of these famous families did, like the Rockefellers or the Carnegies. Each year many people give contributions to charities and nonprofits. Why should we discourage this in any way, especially right now. So many people benefit from so many charities like, Catholic Charities or the Jewish Federation and all of the small charities. So I strongly believe in charitable giving and have supported many bills to encourage it instead of asking the Federal Government to do it, and that is like bringing back much more big government. So I will continue to support tax policies that encourage charitable giving.

Regarding homeownership, here we have been dealing with families and foreclosure rates and what is happening. And now the budget proposal is to limit the mortgage interest deduction. This is a direct hit to family budgets and discourages homeownership at a time when we need to encourage homeownership. It is limited. Again, it is to the higher rate taxpayer. But this again is going to trick-

le-down with what it does with homeownership. We need to make homeownership more affordable. Homeowners may currently deduct the interest paid on mortgages from their interest tax liability. So millions of homeowners enjoy the benefits of this deduction which does encourage homeownership through an annual tax savings. Although general support for this tax remains strong, I think it is irresponsible to slash this benefit. I support tax policies and now will yield to another one of my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) who is here to address some of the women's issues and how we approach the budget that we are looking at.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Thank you so much for yielding. I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT). She has served long and hard on the Financial Services Committee, and I know that she shares my opinion that these are historic times and we have never seen anything quite like this in the financial services sector before.

Beginning in the housing industry, we watched the market just collapse and we saw the economy flat line and go down into the negative column, and women all over the United States started feeling very insecure. I think as mothers and women, that is very important to each one of us. It is a sense of security, not only for our own well-being but for the well-being of our children.

I know that we look at our mothers. I look at my own mother, Jean, who lives in Anoka, Minnesota. She is going to be 78 years young in just a few months, and she is very concerned as she looks at the value of her 401(k). She, like many Americans, has opened up her statement and seen that her 401(k) has dropped by 50 percent. My mother is a wonderful woman. She does samples. When you go to the grocery store and see those sample ladies, my mother is a samples lady. She has worked all of her life, but she wants to do this because she loves people and she wants to be with people.

But at 78 years of age, she may not always be able to work. And she looks at what she has worked so hard to save for. She never had a high-paying job, but my mother was extremely frugal and extremely prudent, and taught me to be the same way. There are women on fixed incomes all across the country who did the same thing. They took care of their children, raised them, scrimped and saved and clipped coupons, and now here they are, looking at their savings and seeing the value of their savings diminish before their eyes. They are very concerned, and they wonder what in the world has gotten into Congress. What in the world has gotten into this new Presidential administration. They really had high hopes for this administration, and they are looking and saying as a senior citizen, my options are limited. Maybe my husband has already passed away or my husband is infirm. What am I

going to do; I can't go out and get a job. They look at this administration, and in the name of economic stimulus, they saw that this current liberal administration has legislation that is overflowing with wasteful government spending.

And they might have heard about one of these wasteful projects. It is a brand new, billion-dollar high speed train that is going to go from Disneyland up to Las Vegas. A billion dollars of a widow's money to go to pay for a brand new ride essentially from Disneyland to Las Vegas. HARRY REID, the Senator from Nevada, was behind this measure, and it makes us wonder, is he more interested in making sure kids start gambling at younger ages?

We also see the Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, she was behind passing our nearly 1,100-page stimulus bill, brought it to the floor, and not one Member of Congress was able to read that bill before we were asked to vote on it. I don't know if any other Congress was asked to pass a bigger spending bill than this bill with less time to read it, digest it, and even know what was in it. That is not something I want to go home and tell my elderly mother or tell people back in the State of Minnesota, that is Congress is here spending more money than we have ever heard of before, money we don't have, and we are spending that money without even having a chance to read the bills.

I kept my staff here until 9 at night before we were supposed to vote on the stimulus bill. I released them to go home. They had worked all day long. I kept them here until 9, hoping that the Democrats would release the bill so we would at least have a chance to read it. They went home. It wasn't until after midnight that the Democrats finally put the bill online. There was absolutely no way to read the bill. That's shameful. The American people deserve better than that.

And then we see that the President is now telling 92 percent of the American people who are currently paying their mortgages on time that it isn't enough that they pay their own mortgages, now they have to pay the mortgages of the people next door who maybe took out a home equity loan or bought more home than they can afford and got out on a limb, now 92 percent of the American people are seeing their 401(k)s disappear before their eyes, or seeing jobs disappear in their city and community. And they are being told that now it is their responsibility to pay the mortgage of 8 percent of the American people.

And now we have our second spending bill that has come before us, the largest budget that we have had for discretionary spending, \$410 billion. It is an 8 percent increase from the last budget.

I hear the Obama administration telling the average American it is time for you to sacrifice. One thing I don't see is that the Federal Government is

having to sacrifice. They are not sacrificing. They are increasing their spending by a whooping 8 percent on the Federal budget, and this is what we have to see for it. We are looking at a doubling of the national debt. Here we are at \$5 trillion, which worried me back in 2000. And now projected going forward 2019, we are looking at a deficit north of \$20 trillion. We have never seen anything like that.

In the previous hour we saw the Democrats up here speaking. And one of the charts that they had up talked about how very quickly now we are going to see Social Security spending going from having money in the bank for coming in for Social Security. Very soon we are going to go underwater and we are going to have less money coming in for Social Security than what is going out. We will be looking at having about a trillion dollars in obligations that we currently don't have money to obligate to pay for those bills. This is concerning. These are elderly, senior citizen females that are again worried about their own security. No wonder the stock market has dropped more than a thousand points since President Obama took office. No wonder more Americans are blazing mad right now, and they are saying we are not going to take it any more. So you see all across the country tea parties breaking out, people saying I can't pay these taxes any more.

Every promise that was made to the American people during the last campaign by the current Obama administration on fiscal accountability has already been broken. And we only have 45 days in this administration. Every fiscal accountability promise has been broken, and it is a travesty.

□ 2100

I called a friend of mine who is a tax accountant today; she's working really hard because all of the tax returns are going to be due now April 15. I called her to see how she's doing. And I said, tell me, what is some of the information that you're seeing; what can I tell the American people? And she told me about a tax return that she's doing. And I will close with this.

I talked about elderly ladies and their concern about security. Let me tell you about a younger female American, she's just 8 years old; lovely girl, tragic story. She was born in the year 2000, and she had a wonderful family. Her father was a great patriot who wanted to serve his country. He went to Iraq. When she was 4 years old, her father was killed serving his country in Iraq. And now this little girl is receiving money from Social Security disability payments, and she's also receiving money from the United States Defense and Accounting Service which the U.S. Military annuity pays. These are the right payments that she should be getting because of the service that her father gave to her country. But with this money that's coming into this little girl, this little 8-year-old

girl is paying Federal taxes on the amount of money that she is receiving as an orphan. She's not only paying Federal taxes, she is also paying what's called alternative minimum taxes. That's how out of kilter and how drastically this government is spending your money in an out-of-control fashion, that not only is this government now going to widows for more money and increased taxes, we're even reaching into the pockets of orphans to tax them with alternative minimum tax, a tax that was meant for rich people so that rich people would not escape paying taxes. Now orphans are being subject, at very low levels, for alternative minimum tax.

I would repeat what we saw a reporter say on CNBC: "Mr. President, are you listening to the American people?" We cannot afford a doubling of our national debt. We cannot afford to impoverish America's widows. And we certainly can't afford to be taking money out of the pockets of orphans whose fathers were killed serving this country in the Iraq war. This must end. And the Obama administration must stop taxing the American people.

And with that, I would yield back to the gentlelady from the State of Illinois, Mrs. BIGGERT.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlelady from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN).

I know that this is what we're hearing from I think all of our constituents about having their life savings, their retirement accounts decline. I've got a letter here from another one of my constituents saying, "My life savings, including retirement accounts, have declined to the point where I am unsure I will ever be able to retire or make another major purchase of any kind. How many more negative Wall Street stock market losses will it take before the new administration realizes that their reckless spending without a true plan to correct the economy will destroy all of us to a point that retirees and us close to retirement may never recover from their continuous blunders?" So I thank the gentlelady for bringing that to our attention. I appreciate it.

And now I would like to ask the gentlelady from—Wyoming. I'm sorry I messed up on a new Member's State, but the gentlelady from Wyoming, CYNTHIA LUMMIS. I'm happy that you're here.

Mrs. LUMMIS. I thank the gentlelady from Illinois for this fine session this evening.

The American people know, and particularly women in this country know, that you cannot tax and spend your way into economic prosperity; and furthermore, you cannot tax during a recession. Yet, that is what is being proposed, and those taxes will fall on you.

One of the ways in which those taxes will fall on you during this recession is through something called cap and trade. Cap and trade is a tax, so I'm going to go over and change this and add the word "tax." And I want to talk

specifically about how it's going to affect family budgets.

Cap and trade is a tax that will be used to change the way that you use power—meaning electricity, oil, gas—and anything that comes from carbon—meaning oil, gas, or coal, specifically. And those sources of energy represent 50 percent of the electricity in this country, which comes from coal, and also a significant amount, of course, of our gasoline coming from oil, and natural gas, which is used to heat our homes. These all emit carbon. And in order to change the American behavior and the way that we use these carbon-emitting substances, the Obama administration proposes to tax them. It will be called a cap and trade system, which is a market-based system, but it's cleverly disguised as a market-based system because, in reality, it is a tax, a carbon tax, and it will be paid by the American consumer. So if you use electricity, if you heat or cool your home, if you drive an automobile, if you use public transportation, you will be paying this tax. And here's how it will accrue to you if you are an average household.

Gasoline is in blue on this chart, natural gas in red, electricity in green. And as you can see, the cost of these for an average household without the cap and trade tax is on the left, and the cost with cap and trade is on my right—the left of someone who would be viewing this chart. So you will see it will have a 9 percent increase for electricity in the average home, 14 percent increase for natural gas, and a 16 percent increase for gasoline in the average home.

Now, I can tell you, in my home State of Wyoming it will be much higher than that because in the winter it costs more for us to heat our homes. In the summer, admittedly, it costs less for us to cool our homes. But we consume more gasoline per family than any other State in the Union and that is because there is no public transportation in Wyoming. The distances are too far. We are the ninth largest State by land mass, and we have the smallest population in the Nation. Consequently, we can't go anywhere on public transportation; it is all automobile-based. That's why we consume more gasoline than other States, and that's why the effects of this tax will fall very heavily on people who live in rural areas, and also in areas with extreme climate changes or extreme temperature changes, places that must heat their homes in the winter and cool their homes in the summer.

So if you fall into any of those categories, you're going to see much higher expenses because all of the cap and trade taxes are going to be passed on to you. They are not going to be absorbed by the companies that are producing oil, gas and coal. However, there is going to be another impact on those businesses, and that is job loss, job loss at a time when this country is in recession, at a time when job losses are al-

ready driving us more deeply into recession. And that job loss looks like this: 2011, over 200,000 jobs lost; and each year thereafter, climbing to the year 2015, to about 1.5 million jobs lost due to this cap and trade tax. And once again, I'm going to write the word "tax" on this chart.

What's worse, this is being foisted on the American people in the name of climate change, in the name of global warming. And those who believe that global warming is man-made—and there are many, I would say a preponderance of people believe that climate change is man-made—believe that if Americans change their ways and consume less carbon-emitting substances, that they will be able to change climate. I learned last week in a Natural Resources Committee from an international expert on energy and climate that that is not the case, that America could cease all economic activity, that Japan could cease all economic activity, and that Europe could cease all economic activity, we could turn off our lights, we could quit using our cars, we could stay home, we wouldn't work, the factories would shut down, in all three of those large economies and it is not going to have one iota of influence on the amount of carbon in the atmosphere unless China, Russia and India change their climate policies.

China desperately wants each person in their economy to have a light bulb in their home. That is their goal, a light bulb in every home. And in order to put a light bulb in every home in China they are building one new coal-fired plant a week, and they will have to continue to do so for a very long period of time. No one can blame China for wanting a higher standard of living for every person in their country, and no one can fault them for wanting them to do it with resources they have—like coal, oil and gas—and for wanting to do it with the cheapest source, hydroelectric and coal. Consequently, the costs that will be borne by the American consumer are going to have not one single effect on carbon emissions in this atmosphere. That's where rational thinking goes out of the way and the American consumer foots the bill.

I want to close—and I thank the gentlelady from Illinois—I want to close with this thought: You can't tax and spend your way out of a recession. And taxes during a recession is the absolute worst consequence on a family in America in the 21st century with these problems.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlelady from Wyoming. Thank you for your expertise on this issue. I think that you've really been able to bring new thoughts on this and really put it very succinctly in what's happening in this. And next we have to deal with nuclear energy, too, and really continue to build that up. So I thank you for doing that.

And next we have the gentlelady from North Carolina, who you see on

the floor a lot. She provides us with so much knowledge, the gentlelady from North Carolina, VIRGINIA FOXX.

Ms. FOXX. Well, I want to thank my colleague, Mrs. BIGGERT, from Illinois for organizing this Special Order tonight and bringing together a group of—those who have already spoken—exceptional women who have shared their expertise with us tonight.

I have a quote that I want to use, it's from Pericles, from 430 BC. Pericles said, "Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you." And I think what all of us have been trying to communicate tonight is that there's a lot happening that needs to be shared with the American people. And many people, particularly women, every day are going to work, doing their jobs, coming home, taking care of their families—be it their nuclear family or their extended family—and many don't have time to get involved a lot in the political life. March is Women's History Month, and I think it's important that we talk about the role of women in our culture and how what's happening here is going to have an impact on them.

We don't have a lot of time left tonight, but I do want to say that I share with my colleagues the concerns that they've expressed in terms of how raising taxes during a recession is the wrong thing to do, how raising taxes on energy is the wrong thing to do, how raising taxes on small businesses—the engines of job creation—is the wrong thing to do, how raising taxes on investments instead of encouraging economic growth is the wrong thing to do, limiting tax incentives for charitable giving is the wrong thing to do. And I could go on and on about what's wrong with the budget that President Obama has submitted, and which it looks very likely that this Democratic Congress is going to endorse.

□ 2115

What we need to be doing in our culture and in our country is to be promoting job growth, promoting economic recovery, and yet everything that's being done seems to be wanting to drive down the economy and harm the economy and the American people. It is a very difficult thing to deal with when you see that happening and you know that's the impact of what's happening, whether it is designed to be that way or not.

Today someone gave me an excellent article from National Journal of March 7 by Clive Crook, the title of which is "The End of the American Exception?" And he goes through this and talks about how it appears as though the present administration is trying to take us to the place that Europe is right now and compares us to France. I will submit this article in its entirety tonight.

Again, I applaud my colleagues for the work that they have done tonight. I think we have just scratched the surface in what we need to be presenting

to the American public, especially American women.

Right now 59.3 percent of our labor force is made up of American women over the age of 16. There are 71 million of them working. They are 46 percent of the total labor force and projected to account for 47 percent of the labor force in 2016. They are also projected to account for 49 percent of the increase in the total workforce. They're doing a tremendous job for us in this country, but they're going to be hit by this. And many of them are not participating in politics. They're not able to because of the demands of their jobs and their families. But I think it's important that we point these items out to them, and I hope we will be doing another Special Order this month so we can do more by way of educating people about the effects of this budget on the average American family.

And with that, I yield back to my colleague from Illinois, who has done such a great job tonight.

[From the National Journal, March 7, 2009]

THE END OF THE AMERICAN EXCEPTION?

(By Clive Crook)

During PBS's NewsHour With Jim Lehrer last Friday, the program's resident pundits, David Brooks and Mark Shields, had an interesting exchange about President Obama's first budget. They agreed that the administration aimed to be "transformative"—and Brooks conceded, "I think we all want that." The real question, he said, is how transformative.

Brooks: "The debate will be over the nature of it: If it's a transformative relationship that basically keeps the American model with repair, you'll get a lot of people in the center for it. If it's a transformative relationship that turns us into France, with a consumption tax and a much bigger federal government, you will not."

Shields: "That's a straw man, turning it into France. That's not the case."

Is it really a straw man? I was hoping that Brooks would press Shields to say what exactly it is about France he objects to, what makes him recoil at the parallel. Where has France gone too far, in the view of an American liberal?

Presumably, liberals approve of the universal health care, the generous and extensive welfare state, the comprehensive worker protections, the stricter regulation, the vastly more-generous subsidies for higher education, the stronger unions, the higher taxes, and especially the higher taxes on the rich. At least I assume they do, since they advocate all of those policies for the United States. Have I left something out?

As far as social and economic policies are concerned, Democrats really ought to be holding up France (or maybe Italy or Germany) as the model to which they aspire. The fact that they do not—that they even deny the validity of the comparison—seems revealing. No doubt it is partly a matter of tactical calculation. The idea that the United States should model itself on any other country, rather than offer itself as the model for the world, would be new to most American voters and would take some getting used to. But I do not think it is just that.

Perhaps some liberals privately long to make the United States over in the image of France, but the great majority, I imagine, are more interested in taking the things they regard as best in the European eco-

nomical model—all the things I just listed—and combining those "socially enlightened" policies with the traditional economic virtues of the United States. Take French social policies and welfare-state institutions and add them to the American work ethic, spirit of self-reliance, and appetite for change. Et voilà, the best of both worlds.

Color me skeptical. Culture shapes institutions and vice versa. Culture—that bundle of traits of self-reliance, self-determination, innovation, and striving for success—underpins the American exception. To state the obvious, it helps explain why this country has a markedly different form of capitalism than Europe, based on smaller government and lower taxes.

In ordinary times, this culture makes it hard for a government to push the United States in a European direction: Voters push back against bigger government and higher taxes. But now, maybe, the time is ripe. This unusually severe economic crisis has called American capitalism into question, highlighting its weaknesses and making it easier to forget its strengths. Liberalism has a rare opportunity. And just as this opportunity has arisen, American liberals also have, in Barack Obama, a remarkably popular and appealing leader to press the advantage.

But the interaction between culture and institutions works both ways. Change the system and, with time, you will change the culture. How much you will change it is debatable, and so is whether change of that kind would be good, bad, or indifferent for the country's economic and political prospects. But it would be an error to assume that the policy transformation that some liberals long for—and which Obama, if his budget is any guide, appears to be aiming for—would leave America's unusual cultural traits unaffected.

I had better declare an interest on this question of good, bad, or indifferent. As you may recall, I am a Brit who lives in the U.S. Politically speaking, I think of myself as an old-fashioned English liberal, a comically outmoded orientation that has little or no voice in modern European or American politics. In U.S. terms, you get a sense of where I stand if you think "liberal on social issues, conservative on economic issues" (but with exceptions; so do not hold me to that).

To put it mildly, I admire this country's instinctive suspicion of concentrated state power; its anti-collectivism, its veneration of the individual spirit and individual enterprise. At different times and in different ways, Democrats and Republicans alike have been at war with aspects of that mind-set, but as an admiring foreigner; I am here to tell you that this culture survives, that the American exception is alive and well, and that it is more than likely the secret of this country's awesome success.

If I were a citizen with a vote—as one day, immigration authorities permitting, I hope to be—I would need to think long and hard before casting it for "transformation." Repairs here and improvements there, of course, but transformation? It would be a shame to see America revert to the Western European norm. It would mean I had wasted a trip, for one thing, and I am not sure where I would go next.

Brooks's invoking France as a possible destination for Obama's social experiment does seem far-fetched. But the staggering breadth of Obama's ambition makes it reasonable to ask where all this is heading. Thoroughgoing health care reform would have been a bold undertaking by itself, one for which there is broad centrist support. But the budget and the fiscal stimulus also call for wide and ongoing commitments to public investment.

Obama is fond of saying that the question is not big government or small government,

but what works. The fact is, whether his programs work or not, taken together they represent the biggest and fastest expansion of government since the New Deal. Moreover; the tax increases to pay for this expansion, he says, are to fall entirely on high-earning households. So his plan to enlarge government is married to an uncompromising assault on economic inequality.

And if all of this is not enough to remind you of Europe, Obama has also expressed strong support for the Employee Free Choice Act, arguing that bigger and stronger unions are a vital part of sharing prosperity more widely. To somebody who watched unions cripple the British economy, until voters elected Margaret Thatcher to sweep them away, this is the part of Obama's program that seems most in need of an international reality check.

This promised transformation is not a move into unexplored territory, after all. The policies that Obama is proposing have all been tried elsewhere. Ideas that look bold and new in this country are old hat across the Atlantic. And we know something about how well they work.

A strong case can be made for many of Obama's proposals, taken one at a time. I admire his ambition to mend the country's failing, unjust, and needlessly expensive health care system. I also applaud his focus on raising the incomes of the working poor, through tax cuts and wage subsidies (such as his "make work pay" tax credits). But trade-offs need to be faced. A good hard look at Europe makes this plain.

Bigger government requires higher taxes—in the end, for most taxpayers and not just the rich. Europe shows that tax systems tilted too far against high earners stifle the incentives that spur economic growth. Welfare systems that are more generous and have fewer strings tend to raise unemployment. Stricter regulation can and does retard innovation. Stronger unions can raise unemployment and, in the aggregate, lower incomes.

The president cannot be accused of misleading voters. For the most part, he is planning to push through the policies he advocated during the election—policies that the country voted for. His apparent determination to keep his word is unusual, and a little startling, but this is more a criticism of other politicians than of him. Although he cannot be accused, not yet, of breaking promises, I think it is fair to ask whether he has thought through the implications of his agenda taken as a whole. His style of explanation, or salesmanship if you prefer, is heavy on pragmatism and on mending one thing at a time. But the breadth of his program, and the connectedness of his ideas, belie that modest stance.

As the president said during his Inaugural Address, "It has been the risk takers, the doers, the makers of things . . . who have carried us up the long, rugged path toward prosperity and freedom." That is a very American sentiment. It is fair to ask what the full scope of Obama's transformative agenda implies for the risk takers, the doers, and the makers of things. Aside from higher taxes if they succeed, obviously.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina, who has been such an outstanding spokesman for, I think, the women on our side of the aisle, and I appreciate all that she has had to say.

Let me just kind of return to kind of the thought that I had when we started this Special Order. I think that we really do still have to recognize that the American people are hurting. It doesn't matter if they are low income,

middle income, or high income. We have to call attention to our economy and the fiscal discipline that we need to implement to get this country back on the right track. Not only are our people suffering but our country is suffering and so is the international economy, and I think that we really need to work together.

As I said before, we want the President and the administration to succeed. We need to find the solution to the problems that we face in this country and our economy, and I think that we stand here ready and willing to help. But we have to do it right. We have to make it happen. And I think that's when we'll all work together, and I would hope that there would be some sort of a summit where we really focus. I think that we are spread out in this first 6 weeks, 7 weeks of an administration in what has been happening in health care and the economy and education and energy and sciences and all the things that we are trying to do at once. I think we need to focus that energy on solving the problems of the economy.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and until 5 p.m. on March 10.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of death in the family.

Mr. STARK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. LUCAS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of family business.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McMAHON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, March 10, 11 and 12.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, March 16.

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, March 16.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, today, March 10, 11 and 12.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, March 16.

Mr. INGLIS, for 5 minutes, March 16.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia, for 5 minutes, March 10 and 11.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 38. An act making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 10, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

798. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Famoxadone; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-1192; FRL-8400-9] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

799. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluazifop-P-butyl; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0066; FRL-8401-1] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

800. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Propoxycarbazone; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0065; FRL-8400-4] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

801. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tebuconazole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0097; FRL-8399-3] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

802. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Chlorothalonil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-1106; FRL-8402-7] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

803. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dimethomorph; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0258; FRL-8401-6] received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

804. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Sa-

vannah River, Savannah, GA [USCG-2008-0352] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

805. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Savannah River, Savannah, GA [USCG-2008-0353] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

806. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Savannah River, Savannah, GA [USCG-2008-0361] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

807. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; St. Thomas Harbor, Charlotte Amalie, USVI. [Docket No.: USCG-2007-0162] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

808. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Savannah River, Savannah, GA [USCG-2008-0382] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 26, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1262. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111-26). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BILBRAY (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. FILNER, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. RADANOVICH):

H.R. 1382. A bill to provide assistance for ultra efficient vehicles under the advanced technology vehicles manufacturing incentive program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 1383. A bill to provide that, for purposes of certain Government facilities, the rate at which a Federal employee earns compensatory time for irregular or occasional overtime work shall be increased so as to permit greater parity with rates of overtime pay; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

H.R. 1384. A bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove

limiting charges under the Medicare Program for non-participating physicians with beneficiary notice and to preempt State laws that prohibit balance billing; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PERRIELLO, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 1385. A bill to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. FILNER:

H.R. 1386. A bill to amend section 1011 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173) to make permanent the program of Federal reimbursement of emergency health services furnished to undocumented aliens; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HODES (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. CLAY):

H.R. 1387. A bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to require preservation of certain electronic records by Federal agencies, to require a certification and reports relating to Presidential records, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. HARE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. POLIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SABLON, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 1388. A bill to reauthorize and reform the national service laws; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 1389. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit for taxes paid on earnings reinvested and lost in a fraudulent investment scheme; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 1390. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for the expedited consideration of certain proposed rescissions of budget authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 1391. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to revise the Telemarketing Sales Rule to explicitly prohibit the sending of a text message containing an unsolicited advertisement to a cellular telephone number listed on the national do-not-call registry; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. WHITEFIELD, Mr. ROSS, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. HALL of Texas):

H.R. 1392. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more appropriate payment amounts for drugs and biologicals under part B of the Medicare Program by excluding customary prompt pay

discounts extended to wholesalers from the manufacturer's average sales price; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HINOJOSA:

H.R. 1393. A bill to amend the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000 to authorize additional projects and activities under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. INSLEE (for himself and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 1394. A bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish the Clean Energy Corps to mobilize young people to promote energy conservation and mitigate threats to the environment; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KLINE of Minnesota (for himself, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. COLE, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK):

H.R. 1395. A bill to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands under the National Labor Relations Act; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself and Mr. FILNER):

H.R. 1396. A bill to improve the safety of motorcoaches, to allow a credit against income tax for the cost of motorcoaches complying with Federal safety requirements, for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. WEINER, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MCMAHON, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MASSA, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MAFFEI, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 1397. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 41 Purdy Avenue in Rye, New York, as the "Caroline O'Day Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MATHESON (for himself, Mr. UPTON, Mr. BOREN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 1398. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to nutrition labeling of food offered for sale in food service establishments; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCHUGH:

H.R. 1399. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to support State and tribal government efforts to encourage owners and operators of privately held farm, ranch, and forest land containing maple trees to make their land available for access by the public for maple-tapping activities under programs administered by States and tribal governments; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MCHUGH:

H.R. 1400. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to make cigarettes and certain other tobacco products nonmailable, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Mr. HARE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LOEBBACH, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. SIRE, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 1401. A bill to create a service corps of veterans called Veterans Engaged for Tomorrow (VET) Corps focused on promoting and improving the service opportunities for veterans and retired members of the military by engaging such veterans and retired members in projects designed to meet identifiable public needs with a specific emphasis on projects to support veterans, including disabled and older veterans and retired members of the military; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SPACE (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. TERRY, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. MANZULLO, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa):

H.R. 1402. A bill to catalyze change in the care and treatment of diabetes in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WOLF:

H.R. 1403. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require schools participating in the school lunch program under such Act to donate any excess food to local food banks; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. WATSON, Mr. HOLT, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FALCONE, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, and Ms. FOX):

H.J. Res. 39. A joint resolution recognizing the 188th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASTLE (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. MCKEON):

H. Res. 222. A resolution congratulating the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th Anniversary in measuring student academic achievement; to the Committee on Education and Labor; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. BOREN):

H. Res. 223. A resolution honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Paul Harvey, affectionately known for his signature line, "This is Paul Harvey. . . Good Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GORDON of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. BAIRD):

H. Res. 224. A resolution supporting the designation of Pi Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H. Res. 225. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require that general appropriations for military construction and veterans' affairs be considered as stand-alone measures; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. CAO, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms.

NORTON, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H. Res. 226. A resolution recognizing the plight of the Tibetan people on the 50th anniversary of His Holiness the Dalai Lama being forced into exile and calling for a sustained multilateral effort to bring about a durable and peaceful solution to the Tibet issue; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SPACE, Mr. SESTAK, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. WEXLER):

H. Res. 227. A resolution recognizing and appreciating the historical significance and the heroic human endeavor and sacrifice of the people of Crete during World War II and commending the PanCretan Association of America; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 22: Mr. ARCURI, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. ROSS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Ms. HIRONO.

H.R. 23: Mr. BOCCIERI, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 59: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 131: Mr. SESTAK and Mr. SCALISE.

H.R. 154: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H.R. 155: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H.R. 205: Mr. DEAL of Georgia.

H.R. 211: Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. SPACE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SHULER, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 235: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.

H.R. 270: Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. MINNICK, and Mr. GORDON of Tennessee.

H.R. 275: Mr. GRAVES.

H.R. 301: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 302: Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 303: Mr. FORBES, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. TIAHRT, and Mr. INSLEE.

H.R. 305: Mr. WELCH and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 367: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.

H.R. 422: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 444: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

H.R. 450: Mr. MCHENRY and Ms. FOXX.

H.R. 476: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 479: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 484: Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 517: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.

H.R. 564: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H.R. 622: Mr. MINNICK.

H.R. 624: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 669: Mr. DEFazio, Mr. FARR, and Mr. KAGEN.

H.R. 673: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 707: Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. BOUSTANY.

H.R. 708: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. CANTOR, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, and Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 716: Mr. MCMAHON.

H.R. 744: Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. BOOZMAN.

H.R. 758: Mr. DAVIS of ALABAMA.

H.R. 775: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. BOREN, and Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 816: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 868: Mr. MASSA and Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 872: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. STARK, and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 873: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MAFFEI, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. COOPER, Mr. OLVER, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. WU, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BOSWELL, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Mr. HIMES, Ms. KILROY, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POLIS, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. MASSA, Ms. BEAN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. LOEBACK, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HODES, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WALZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. FARR, Mr. KIND, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. HOLT, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MITCHELL, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. OBEY, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. STARK, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 877: Mrs. MILLER of Michigan and Mr. ALEXANDER.

H.R. 914: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. KIND, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. DRIEHAUS.

H.R. 930: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 950: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HARE, and Mr. HOLDEN.

H.R. 953: Mrs. MYRICK.

H.R. 968: Mr. DENT and Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 978: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 979: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. LOEBACK.

H.R. 997: Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 1008: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 1016: Ms. HIRONO, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BOREN, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1017: Mr. YOUNG of Florida.

H.R. 1021: Mr. PITTS and Mr. SPACE.

H.R. 1029: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1032: Ms. KILROY, Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ARCURI, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1064: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. CLYBURN.

H.R. 1067: Mr. CARNEY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1069: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 1076: Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 1139: Mr. MURTHA.

H.R. 1148: Mr. MCCAUL.

H.R. 1156: Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California.

H.R. 1186: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1189: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 1193: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 1204: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H.R. 1207: Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 1209: Mr. COSTA and Mr. BUYER.

H.R. 1211: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1214: Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SIREN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1238: Ms. FALLIN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 1240: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1254: Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 1262: Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland.

H.R. 1263: Mr. WOLF.

H.R. 1264: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 1270: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. GRAYSON, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

H.R. 1283: Mr. DICKS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 1294: Mr. BLUNT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. UPTON, and Mrs. BACHMANN.

H.R. 1302: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1329: Mr. KIRK and Ms. BEAN.

H.R. 1334: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1341: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 1347: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. MARSHALL.

H. Con. Res. 48: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. FARR, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H. Con. Res. 49: Mr. WITTMAN, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. POSEY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H. Con. Res. 55: Mr. BOREN, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. ISSA, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H. Con. Res. 57: Mr. AKIN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. HARPER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. POSEY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. WOLF, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

H. Con. Res. 59: Ms. BORDALLO.

H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H. Con. Res. 64: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.

H. Res. 20: Mr. MASSA.

H. Res. 22: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H. Res. 81: Mr. TAYLOR.

H. Res. 130: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. INSLEE, and Mr. MARSHALL.

H. Res. 166: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, and Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H. Res. 173: Mr. BROWN of Georgia.

H. Res. 174: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. MCMAHON.

H. Res. 178: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H. Res. 185: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KIRK, Mr. BARTLETT, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, and Ms. WATSON.

H. Res. 194: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, and Mr. POE of Texas.

H. Res. 200: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. PERRIELLO.

H. Res. 209: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. CROWLEY.

H. Res. 210: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. KUCINICH.

H. Res. 211: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. FARR, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. SUT-

TON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.